

**24 Indian soldiers killed:** Tamil guerrillas on Thursday attacked Indian soldiers in a hospital and an adjacent guard post, killing at least 24 troops with rockets and machine-gun-fire, the Army said.



## INTERNATIONAL

# Alcohol affects nursing infants

BOSTON, Aug 18, (AP): Nursing mothers who drink may pass on enough alcohol to slightly retard their children's physical development, according to a study published in yesterday's New England Journal of Medicine.

Doctors routinely caution women to avoid alcohol during pregnancy because of the potentially dangerous effects drinking can have on fetuses. The results of the new study raise the possibility that alcohol should be extended into early childhood if babies are breast fed.

Tests showed that babies of nursing women who had one or more drinks a day "are a little slower to walk, to crawl and to have other motor skills," said Ruth E. Little, an epidemiologist at the University of Michigan.

But she cautioned, "I would not worry about drinking during lactation until this finding has been confirmed in at least one more study."

Little and other researchers looked at more than 100 possible factors that could have explained the slower development. These included the women's age, intelligence and drug use during pregnancy. But only drinking while breast feeding was clearly associated with slower motor development.

The study was based on tests on 400 infants who were born to members of a health maintenance organisation in Seattle.

"I think it's provocative, but the potential mechanism is very difficult to understand, since the actual alcohol exposure experienced by these children is minimal," said Dr Robert Sokol, head of the Foetal Alcohol Research Centre at Wayne State University.

During pregnancy, alcohol consumed by the mother crosses the placenta and alcohol levels in foetus are similar to those in the mother's bloodstream. However, after birth, only tiny amounts of alcohol get into breast milk.

# Over-active immune systems may cause headaches

CHICAGO, Aug 18, (AP): Headache sufferers may be victims of over-active immune systems, and research into the weakened immunity of AIDS patients may shed light on the cause of headache pain, a researcher said on Wednesday.

But other experts in the field are sceptical of the research by Dr Lawrence Robbins, saying that the recurrent headaches afflicting up to five

per cent of Americans have many causes.

"Everything we know about headaches fits in with the hypothesis that the immune system is involved in some integral way," said Robbins, a neurologist in suburban Northbrook, Illinois who has studied the immunity-headache link.

"We know that people with lupus

(erythematosus) have an over-active immune system, and they get many, many more migraines than other people," Robbins said. Lupus results when the immune system attacks the body's own connective tissues, causing symptoms ranging from a rash to joint pain to death.

"We know that steroids — cortisone — which decrease the immune system,

help migraine headaches very much," Robbins said.

And now, he said, researchers are looking into whether acquired immune deficiency syndrome patients who have a history of migraine headaches get fewer headaches once their immune systems become depressed by the AIDS virus.

"The preliminary results appear to

indicate that is happening," said Robbins, who has enlisted researchers in four studies of AIDS patients to begin documenting changes in headache patterns among their subjects.

Robbins and two colleagues reported in May that they had analysed the blood of 75 headache patients — including sufferers of migraines and of chronic tension headaches — and 32

other people. The researchers found that the headache patients had 30 per cent fewer immune system cells of a type known as suppressor cells, which slow the body's disease-fighting response.

Suppressor cells work in combination with helper cells, which push the immune system along, he said.



Morning fishing

US President George Bush and his son George (right) leave Walker's Point in the Bush boat 'Fidelity' for a morning of fishing Aug 17. (Reuter wirephoto)

# Heels: The agony of the feet

DAVIS, California, Aug 18, (AP): Spike heels weren't made for walking, according to a year-long study of high-heeled shoes that indicates flat footwear may be healthier.

Becky Snow, who studied heel heights for a master's degree thesis in physical education and exercise science, found that pressure on the ball of a woman's foot increases dramatically with higher shoes.

Compared with going barefoot, a 0.75-inch (1.9 centimetre) heel increases the peak pressure 33 per cent, a 2-inch (5 centimetre) heel increases it 53 per cent and a 3.75-inch (8.25-centimetre) heel increases it 76 per cent, the University of California biomechanist said. Moreover, high heels shorten the time the foot has to adjust to the higher pressures.

The study doesn't prove high heels are unhealthy, but suggests further research should be made into heels

# Men think of sex while cycling

EMMAUS, Pennsylvania, Aug 18, (AP): Men are more likely than women to think about sex while bicycling, and women are more likely than men to think about cycling during sex, according to cyclists who told a magazine the sport generally improves their sex lives.

Sixty-six per cent of the 1,675 respondents to a mail-in survey by bicycling magazine said they believed cycling has made them better lovers, and 44 per cent said it increased their sex drive, while 11 per cent said it decreased.

Asked whether they thought about sex while cycling, 1,146 men, or 85 per cent, said they did, while 234 women, or 77 per cent, acknowledged such thoughts. Asked whether they thought about cycling during sex, 19 per cent of the men and 23 per cent of the women said they did.

and posture, joint deterioration and other foot ailments, she said.

Keith Williams, a physical education professor and biomechanist who advised Snow in her research, said he hopes it prompts the fashion industry to follow athletic-shoe makers by designing footwear with

physiology in mind.

Williams, who has tried unsuccessfully to market dress shoes that are more comfortable than beautiful, added: "Maybe they should require the shoe designers to walk in high-heeled shoes."

# Laotian shoots wife, himself

STOCKTON, California, Aug 18, (AP): A man just out of jail for child abuse held his wife and eight children hostage for more than six hours, terrorising them by playing Russian roulette, before killing the woman and himself, police said.

The children, between 1 and 13 years old, were safe after yesterday's standoff. The gunman, Dang Cha Xiong, a Laotian refugee, died about two hours later at a hospital. His wife's name was not immediately available.

A ninth child, a 12-year-old boy, had escaped from the apartment and alerted police that his father was holding the family hostage. He said Dang was playing Russian roulette with his hostages, sticking a bullet in the cylinder of his .38-caliber revolver and pulling the trigger at random, said Lt. Andy Jackson.

Police spoke with Dang for several hours and he sounded cooperative, said Lucian Neely, deputy police chief. But after Dang said he would surrender and lay down his gun, police heard four shots.

Officers rushed the apartment and found the children in a front room and the two wounded parents in a rear bedroom. Police fired no shots during the siege, Neely said.

Dang, 35, had been involved in a longstanding feud with his wife's parents, Neely said.

He previously had been arrested and convicted for child abuse, Sgt. Dennis Sanford said. He had been released from jail yesterday morning.

Officers said a court order had restrained him from visiting the family apartment in the Tyrolea village district north of the downtown where many refugees from Southeast Asia live.

On Jan 17, five children of Southeast Asian refugees were killed and 30 other people wounded on a Stockton schoolyard by a man who then shot himself to death in this city 75 miles (120 kilometres) east of San Francisco.

# Murder of gang rival

# Girl in prison

LOS ANGELES, Aug 18, (AP): A 13-year-old girl was sentenced to 27 years to life in prison for gunning down a girlfriend who had switched gang affiliations.

Wednesday's sentencing followed a night of gang bloodshed that left four people dead and four injured. Such violence, coupled with rampant drug dealing, prompted the city on Tuesday to create a \$3 million programme to deploy large squads of police in gang-infested areas.

The girl, whose name was withheld because of her age, was sentenced in Compton Juvenile Court for the June 2 shooting of Patricia Tawana Thomas, 14. She was convicted of first-degree murder on Aug 3.

Despite the heavy sentence, as a minor she can be imprisoned only until she is 25.

The killer and the slain girl were friends who had belonged to the 113th Street East Coast for Gang, but the victim's decision to change gangs led to a dispute, said Dennis Fuhrman, a prosecutor assigned to the district attorney's homicide gang unit.

"She armed herself, went to the victim's house and while waiting for her to come outside she told some people standing outside that she was going to smoke," the girl, Fuhrman said.

After the point-blank shooting, the 13-year-old bragged to fellow gang members that she had just killed a "swan," referring to a member of the rival Bloods gang, Fuhrman said.

LOS ANGELES, Aug 18, (AP): Businesses are breathing uneasily as they face the daunting task of complying with an anti-smog strategy designed to clean up the nation's dirtiest air and transform the California lifestyle.

"The plan is so encompassing and so broad in its scope that we don't really know yet what the financial implications are as we go into the next century," said Robert Raskin of Owens-Brockway Corp., a glass bottle maker with California plants.

The plan, adopted this week, aims to bring the southern California into compliance with federal laws by the year 2007, a process drawing interest

# NEWS IN BRIEF



Dr. Anthony Fauci, right, a leading researcher in the fight against AIDS is flanked by US Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary James Mason during a press conference Thursday in Washington where they announced that the anti-AIDS drug AZT delays the onset of AIDS in individuals who are infected with the virus but show no signs of the disease. (Reuter wirephoto)

# Live longer

WASHINGTON, Aug 18, (UPI): New research shows that half the 1 million to 1.5 million AIDS-infected Americans may live longer by taking the drug AZT — triple the previous estimate — US health officials announced yesterday.

Health and human services secretary Dr. Louis Sullivan hailed the findings that some 600,000 people could benefit from AZT as a "significant milestone in the battle to change AIDS from a fatal disease to a treatable one."

"These results provide real hope for the millions of people world-wide who are infected with HIV," the Human Immunodeficiency Virus that causes AIDS, Sullivan said.

# Safety precautions

LONDON, Aug 18, (KUNA): British scientists working with genes which cause cancer are being warned to take strict safety precautions in the light of new evidence pointing to the transmission of cancer through skin, it was suggested yesterday.

The advisory committee on genetic manipulation, which oversees the work of 320 British laboratories working in that field, has recognised its virus working group in response to preliminary evidence and may strengthen existing handling guidelines.

The independent newspaper said that in the meantime it has reinforced advice to workers to protect any cuts and abrasions, and to avoid "self-inoculation". It said the use of sharp instruments "must be avoided" and that working surfaces must be regularly decontaminated.

# Under anaesthesia

NEW YORK, Aug 18, (UPI): A 19-month-old Soviet boy who underwent nine hours of surgery remained under anaesthesia yesterday so his brain could slowly expand to fill the space left by an orange-sized tumour.

Doctors at Montefiore Medical Centre planned to remove Kirill Podorozhansky from under sedation today.

"Kirill still remains in critical but stable condition and has been quite stable since the surgery," said Dr. James Goodrich, chairman of Paediatric Neurosurgery at Montefiore.

Without the huge tumour that was pressing on his brain, the boy should soon be able to begin eating and growing normally, Goodrich said. The boy's head had swelled because of the tumour but his body remained the size of a 6-month-old baby.

Doctors decided to keep Kirill, who they called a "tough little fighter," sedated in the paediatric intensive care unit to allow the hole left by the tumour to fill with spinal fluid and the expanding brain.

# Pleads guilty

SEATTLE, Aug 18, (UPI): The president of a New York aircraft parts company pleaded guilty Wednesday to a criminal conspiracy of selling falsely certified jet parts to the world-wide aerospace industry for more than a decade.

Bruce J. Rice, 42, president of Rice Aircraft, Inc., entered guilty pleas to three charges — conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, commercial bribery and defrauding the internal revenue service — as part of an agreement not to be charged with violating the racketeer influenced and corrupt organisations act.

US district judge Thomas Zilly deferred final acceptance of the plea and a sentencing hearing until Feb 16, 1990, to allow Rice to co-operate with further federal investigations.

Rice faces fines, costs and restitution of up to \$1.75 million. He also could be sentenced to up to five years in prison.

# Veteran executed

ATMORE, Alabama, Aug 18, (UPI): Vietnam veteran Herbert Lee Richardson, who claimed he suffered from post-war stress and agent orange exposure, died in the electric chair early today for the pipe-bomb killing of an 11-year-old girl.

"I have no ill feelings and hold nothing against anyone," Richardson, 43, said after he was strapped into the electric chair at Holman Prison around midnight. He was pronounced dead at 12:14 a.m.

Richardson refused a last meal and spent his final day visiting with his wife and family members. He also took communion with an Assemblies of God minister.

Prison spokeswoman Debbie Herbert said the only protester she saw outside the prison was a Catholic nun who had visited another prisoner and held a lit candle during the execution.

# Game-rigging

VENICE, Italy, Aug 18, (Reuter): Thirty-three croppers and 20 gamblers at the Venice casino were

charged yesterday with embezzlement in a game-rigging scheme involving millions of dollars, justice officials said.

The group are accused of rigging Black Jack, roulette and other games between 1983 and 1988 which resulted in losses of several billion lire (millions of dollars) for the Venice City Council which runs the casino.

The investigating magistrate who sent them for trial alleged that the croppers were mainly responsible for devising the scheme and that they shared the winnings with a group of co-operative gamblers.

# Sweet eaters

LONDON, Aug 18, (KUNA): Britons are among the world's greatest sweet eaters and spend around 60 pounds a year each on confectionery, it was reported yesterday.

A study said almost 94 per cent of the population over the age of 11 buys sweets, mints or chocolates at least once a month.

Women buy more sweets than men, but eat only half as much as the rest with their families, especially their children.

# Tickets sell-out

OAKLAND, California, Aug 18, (UPI): More than 100,000 tickets to a pair of Rolling Stones concerts were sold out in less than five hours, officials said Wednesday.

The British rock group often called "the world's greatest rock 'n' roll band," reunited this year after years apart for a national tour. They will play the Oakland Coliseum Nov 4-5.

Tickets at \$28.50 plus a large service charge went on sale at 9 a.m. for 15,000 chairs on the playing field and 35,000 in the stands. They were sold out by 1:30 p.m.

What perhaps makes the sellouts more remarkable was the fact that producer Bill Graham did not even announce they would be available until shortly before the first one was sold.

Graham, wearing a train engineer's cap and an apple-green stone's jumpy suit with the flaming red tongue logo, announced the shows and the ticket sales on a live telecast by pouring a bucket of rocks against a board — the sound of rolling stones.

# Swan floods cyclist

MUNICH, West Germany, Aug 18, (Reuter): A swan that was too fat to fly crash-landed on a 15-year-old cyclist, injuring him and wrecking his bicycle.

Bavarian Finance Minister Gerold Tandler, who is also superintendent of the state's gardens, said yesterday he had given the boy 250 marks (\$125) from public funds to buy a new machine.

The youth, whose name was given as Timo, suffered concussion and bruises in the incident in Munich's main park last month.



# Made for rockin'

Sotheby's auction employee Tamsin Michens displays rock star Elton John's monogrammed platform boots, star-shaped spectacles and a straw boater Thursday in London. The articles are part of the rock 'n' roll memorabilia that will go on sale Tuesday. The sale will also include five tapes sold by the Beatles' former chauffeur Alf Bicknell. The tapes were recorded by the group on a portable tape recorder. (Reuter wirephoto)



# A laughing matter

Bob Hope (left) and George Burns share a laugh during a news conference on Thursday in Los Angeles where the comedians announced their one-night-only comedy concert scheduled for Oct 1 at Madison Square Garden in New York.

Burns, 93, and Hope, 86, have crossed paths for decades but never performed together.

"It didn't take so long — we met last week," said Burns, trademark cigar in his fingers during Thursday's news conference.

The appearance will be with a full orchestra and will include singer Dionne Warwick.

"We didn't have anything to do. Somebody started mentioning money," Hope said when asked why they were going on the road. (Reuter wirephoto).

Starts: 19th August 1989  
Ends: 18th October 1989

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ber and return it to our salesmen or to Al-Sayer Soft Drinks Factory. Keep the second part with you until winners are announced. The Draw will be held at the end of that period mentioned in the coupon. There will be two (2) Draws:

1st Draw: September 17th

2nd Draw: October 18th

1st Prize: TV, with Built in Video

2nd Prize: 9 cu. ft. FRIDGE

3rd Prize: 50 CONSOLATION PRIZES

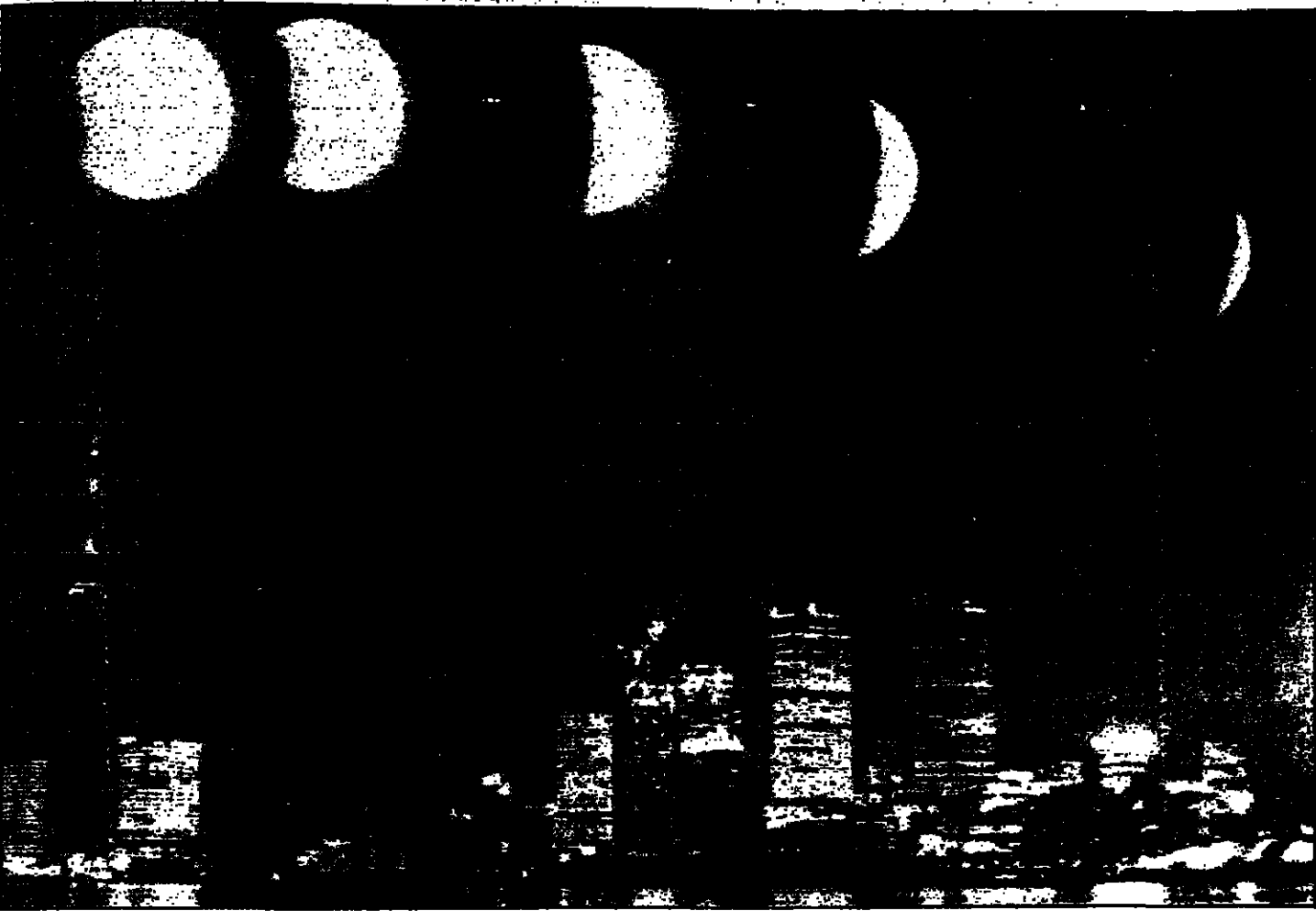
4th Prize: KD. 50/- each

5th Prize: KD. 2500/-

6th Prize: Drink now and win!

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Celestial show

The five phases of the lunar eclipse are shown by multiple exposures over the skyline of Toronto.

The moon blushed in much of the world and disappeared altogether in other parts during a rare full lunar eclipse that awed many sky watchers, although others were disappointed by clouds.

Where the skies were clear, observers reported a spectacular celestial show of light and colour during the eclipse, which began about 0030 GMT on Thursday and was the first in 20 years that had the potential for viewing on five continents.

Weather had permitted, the eclipse could have been in view of more than a billion people. The Earth-moon alignment put the eclipsing events in view of North and South America, Western Europe and Africa, and the Antarctic.

In the US capital, the moon rose as a golden orange, tinted grayish brown as the eclipse began, then winked out altogether as the lunar disk swept into the dark inner core of the Earth's shadow.

In Britain, the eclipse started at 2:20 am and became total by 3:20 am. The

moon blazed dark red, later turning a brighter orange-red.

Romana was in the air on the Toronto waterfront, where Ann Abdel Bay El Sayed and her husband Mohamed sat on a concrete block watching the celestial show.

It was an ironic view for the middle-aged residents of Newmarket, north of Toronto, who said the angle allowed them to see both the ever darkening moon and the waterfront hotel where they spent their honeymoon five years ago.

"There is a Middle Eastern and Turkish tradition that when the moon is at its crescent, you look to the person you love, smile and show them a happy face and kiss them," said Ann, an elementary school teacher, gazing at her husband.

In New York, only the most faithful moonwatchers got to see the last hour of the eclipse early Thursday after skies cleared a little.

Overcast skies were reported over much of Scandinavia and most of France, including Paris.

## New asteroid headed this way

LOS ANGELES, Aug 18, (AP) — For the third time this year, scientists discovered an asteroid will fly relatively close to Earth, and while there is no threat of collision, experts say such a disaster is likely sometime in the future.

"While the new asteroid poses no immediate danger, in astronomical terms it will be making a very close pass" when it comes within 2.5 million miles (4 million kilometres) of Earth about 0300 GMT next Friday, said planetary scientist Eleanor Helin, who discovered the mile-wide (1.5

kilometre-wide) hunk of rock.

At about 10 times the distance between the Earth and the moon, the asteroid designated 1989 PB "will be one of the very closest larger objects to pass the Earth this century," said Helin, a planetary scientist at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

"It's not going to hit us. Certainly there's no danger," astronomer Brian Marsden said in Massachusetts, where he directs the International

Astronomical Union's Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams, an astronomy reporting agency.

"One doesn't want to worry people, but anything that's crossing the orbit of the Earth stands a chance of hitting the Earth, but it's much more likely to be later than sooner. I'm talking millions of years," Marsden said yesterday.

In March, asteroid 1989 FC — no more than a half-mile (kilometre) in diameter — passed within 500,000 miles (800,000 kilometres) of Earth, but wasn't discovered by astronomers until April.

## 'Star burst' found

PASADENA, California, Aug 18, (UPI) — A supernova, the violent explosion of a star, has been discovered in the eastern portion of the constellation Leo by a California Institute of Technology undergraduate, scientists announced yesterday.

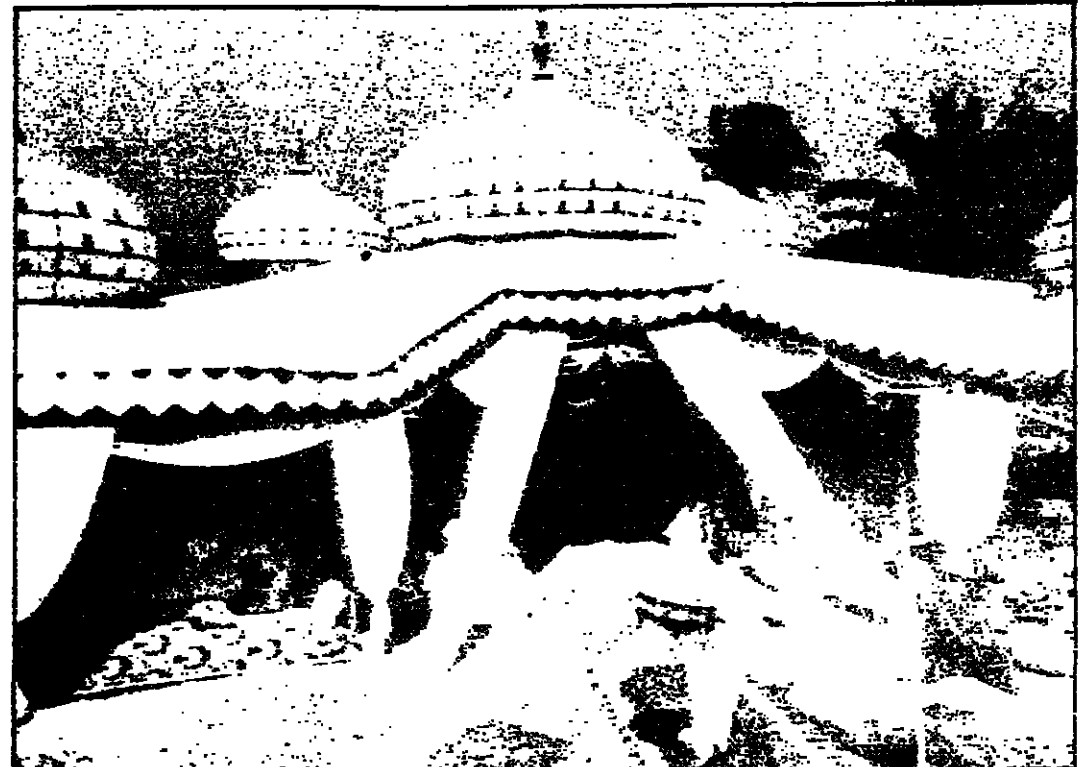
Celina Mikolajczak, 19, discovered the supernova — named SN 1989N and located in a large spiral galaxy 137 million light years from Earth — on photographs taken on the night of June 29-30 through the 18-inch Schmidt telescope at San Diego's Palomar Observatory.

The discovery \$22,000,000, 000,000,000,000 quintillion miles — or a trillion million miles — from Earth was confirmed by Brian Marsden, director of the Minor Planet Centre of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory.

Mikolajczak, an engineering student, made her discovery while working in Caltech's summer undergraduate research fellowship programme under the sponsorship of Eleanor Helin, a planetary scientist at Caltech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

"Our project's focus was a search for comets and asteroids," Mikolajczak said, "but my fellow student, Andrea Mejia, and I had found no comets at all during our first run at Palomar and only previously 6 known asteroids. So Helin suggested we look for supernovas on our films as well."

To find a supernova, recently exposed photographic film is compared with films exposed earlier.



A tent with seating for 400 is prepared with local carpets on the floor for Forbes' 70th birthday party on Saturday on the grounds of his palace in Tangiers. (Reuter wirephoto).

## 'Ali Dada' turns 70

NEW YORK, Aug 18, (Reuters) — Get set this weekend for millionaire Malcolm Forbes' 70th birthday party, the biggest bash of a dying decade, an affair in which the chartered planes alone are expected to cost \$1 million.

Some 600 of the world's rich and famous have been summoned to Morocco tomorrow to help the US publisher celebrate in his own palace overlooking the Atlantic in Tangiers.

The party is being thrown by Forbes' five children in honour of an unabashed capitalist who has everything from important friends (Elizabeth Taylor, Rupert Murdoch, Robert Maxwell among others) to a giant collection of Fabergé eggs, yachts, hot-air balloons, motorcycles and vintage cars.

Among the planes being chartered to fly guests to the fun are a Royal Air Maroc Boeing 747 and an Air France Concorde.

When was the last time you heard of a Concorde being chartered for a birthday party?

The invitations, for those lucky enough to get one, call the bash "Ali Dada's Birthday Party." On Sunday, the weekend will end with a party thrown for Forbes by King Hassan.

Tomorrow's black-tie dinner in five tents at "Ali Dada's" Palais Mendoub will include a procession by 275 mounted guards and performance by 600 entertainers and dancers, Forbes' spokesman Don Carson said.

Among those expected are rival media moguls Murdoch and Maxwell, Fiat Chairman Giovanni Agnelli, designer Oscar de la Renta and Miss Taylor.

Forbes, divorced in 1985, is a frequent escort of Taylor's. In June he gave her a few tokens of his esteem, including diamond-and-ruby earrings and a chocolate cake shaped like one of the imperial Fabergé eggs in his own collection.

Forbes owns Forbes magazine, founded by his Scottish immigrant father in 1917 and now one of the largest US business magazines. It calls itself a "capitalist tool."

A decorated World War Two veteran, he has been chairman and editor-in-chief since the mid-1960s. Former US Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger recently signed on as publisher.

His magazine's list of the world's 400 richest people puts him at \$1.3. It doesn't print details of his wealth, but reports estimate it at more than \$400 million.

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

WASHINGTON: Kitty Kelly, the biographer whose unauthorized life stories of Jackie Onassis and Frank Sinatra set their subjects seething, is a target of a \$50-million dollar lawsuit from syndicated gossip columnist Karen Feld.

In the suit filed in District of Columbia superior court, Feld alleged that Kelly and Time Inc. photographer Stanley Tretick tried to drive her out of business by threatening to file a lawsuit of their own. The action allegedly resulted in Feld losing her syndicated column at the Washington Times.

In June, Feld wrote a column saying Kelly appeared as the funeral of the daughter of former President John F. Kennedy, "disgraced as one of the best kept secrets." The article speculated that Kelly, who is writing a biography of Kennedy, attended only to get access to Reagan inside the White House.

Kelly told Washingtonian magazine she had been invited by the Nofzigers, who confirmed the invitation, and threatened to sue Feld. That suit was never filed. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Actress Jill Ireland, whose battle with cancer was described in two best-selling books, is "pretty much stable, looking good and feeling good," her publicist said.

"The cancer has not recurred in her neck and shoulder," publicist Lori Jones said. "She is undergoing chemotherapy and still has the catheter in her chest. But she is doing very well."

The English-born actress, wife of movie star Charles Bronson, first underwent surgery for removal of a cancerous right breast and eight lymph nodes under her arm in 1984. She wrote about the ordeal in Life With. (AP)

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado: Film stars Robert Redford, Dennis Weaver and Goldie Hawn have been invited to the first environmental film festival, scheduled for April 27-29 in Colorado Springs.

Between 35 and 40 feature films, shorts and documentaries are expected to be shown at the festival, which will coincide with the 20th anniversary of Earth Day.

Jeff Walker of the Pikes Peak Film Council, which is organizing the event, said the Colorado Environmental Coalition, said the sponsors hope to encourage filmmakers to pursue environmental subjects in future films.

Organisers also hope to attract environmental scientists, politicians and technical experts to discuss ecological issues. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: Former Charlie's Angels TV star Kate Jackson underwent cancer surgery in which doctors removed a malignant part of her breast, a spokeswoman said.

Miss Jackson, 40, was resting comfortably at an undisclosed Los Angeles-area hospital and "her prognosis is excellent," publicist Lisa Kasteler said.

Surgeons performed a modified mastectomy and reconstructive plastic surgery, Kasteler said. "I'm making this disclosure public in order to help other women facing this difficult situation, encourage early detection of breast disease through mammography and to save inquiring minds 50 cents," Miss Jackson said in a statement. (AP)

LOS ANGELES: John Candy loves his wisecracking roles in comedy films, but he regards viewing his own movies as a horror.



The new Rocky?

Former US National Football League star Mark Gastineau along with his girlfriend actress Brigitte Nielsen listen to questions Thursday at a news conference where Gastineau announced that he would pursue a new career in a professional boxing.

Gastineau said he wants to build up to a shot at the heavyweight championship against Mike Tyson. (Reuter wirephoto)

"I don't watch my movies," the hefty actor said. "I just get too critical of myself."

Candy said he watches daily prints during shooting and often views rough-cut versions. But he won't go further in fear of second-guessing his performances and editing room decisions.

"You get frustrated thinking, 'I would do this and I would do that,'" he said. "Instead of putting myself through that, I don't even bother with it anymore." (AP)

KETCHIKAN, Alaska: A curious cub got a free, one-way trip out of town after he wandered into the crowded terminal at the Ketchikan Airport.

The 25-pound (11-kilogramme) bear, separated from its mother, tripped an electronic eye on the terminal's automatic doors and wandered over to the baggage carousel, where it was surrounded by tourists.

Alaska Airlines employee John Naranjo said the cub bolted for a stairway. Naranjo grabbed it by its bottom and the scruff of its neck, while another man helped him place it in a portable kennel.

The bear was held overnight Saturday for observation and released the next morning near where the mother bear was last seen, said Todd Sharp, a state wildlife protection officer. The cub sustained a minor scratch on its nose. (AP)

NEW YORK: Actor Jimmy Stewart used to hunt big game with his wife, Gloria, but now he has changed his stripes and is working for conservation.

"Back in my garage, I've got antelope horns and a tiger head from India," Stewart is quoted as saying in the latest issue of Parade magazine, which appears Sunday.

"But, after two years of hunting, we changed to conserving the game," he said.

Stewart is campaigning on behalf of the African elephant, whose numbers have been greatly depleted by hunters seeking its valuable ivory tusks. (AP)

NEW YORK: The American Museum of Natural History has decided that three heads are better than one when it comes to dinosaurs.

The museum has revised its opinion of what the head of an apatosaurus — commonly known as a brontosaurus — looked like.

But because the museum's 17-foot (5.18-metre)-tall, 66-foot (20.1-metre) long apatosaurus skeleton was assembled in 1905 and contains bones that are 140 million years old, it was too fragile to withstand a head transplant.

So the museum has created an exhibit featuring three heads. One is a copy of the head now on the apatosaurus skeleton, another is a model that scientists now believe more closely resembles the apatosaurus' real head, and the third is the head of a close relative of the extinct beast. (AP)

SARATOGA SPRINGS, New York: Marilyn Whitney unofficially hosted for the social whirl surrounding the annual August thoroughbred races here, is recovering from injuries suffered in the line of duty.

Whitney, wife of businessman and horsebreeder CV Whitney, cracked a rib, blackened an eye and opened a gash on her forehead that required 13 stitches when she fell while dancing Friday during the annual "Evening in Old Saratoga" ball.

Whitney was taken to Saratoga hospital, where she seemed more concerned about the blood on her yellow-and-turquoise taffeta Arnold Scaas gown than with her injuries. Renee Walsh, a friend from Chicago, was dispatched to a convenience store while still in her ball gown to buy Selzer water as an aid to removing the blood. (AP)

NEW ORLEANS: The ability to taste bitterness may be a natural defence against poisoning, says a prominent taste researcher.

For one thing, bitterness and toxicity tend to appear together strikingly often, although there are exceptions, said Linda Bartoshuk of Yale University.

For another, scientists have found that the tongue contains more than one kind of sensor to detect bitterness, she said. That would make sense if the system were set up to detect multiple types of poisons, she said.

Bartoshuk discussed research in taste Monday (Aug 14) at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association. (AP)

NEW YORK: Scientists have discovered that a simple kind of yeast creates excellent specimens of a new kind of matter — semiconducting crystals so small they behave somewhat like individual atoms or molecules.

The yeast organisms produce the tiny crystals when exposed to cadmium, a highly toxic metal, in a process that apparently detoxifies the metal.

## Actress is dead

SACRAMENTO, California, Aug 18, (AP) — Actress Amanda Blake, who played the kindhearted Miss Kitty in the "Gunsmoke" television series, has died of cancer at the age of 60.

Mercy General Hospital spokeswoman Jerri Even said Miss Blake died Wednesday evening and a memorial service was being planned for Sacramento.

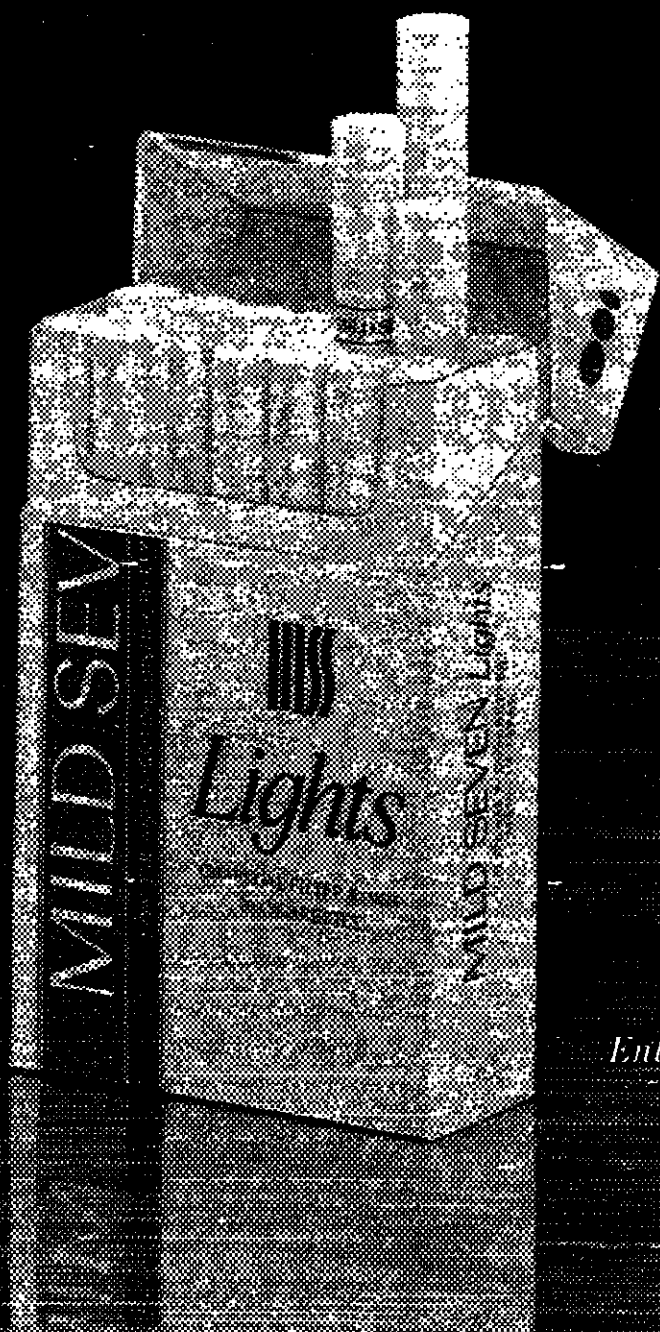
Miss Blake underwent surgery for oral cancer in 1977, and afterward made appearances throughout the country on behalf of the American Cancer Society. She was once a two-pack-a-day smoker.

In 1984, the cancer society named her as the recipient of its Courage Award, which was presented to Miss Blake in the Oval Office by President Ronald Reagan.

"Gunsmoke," one of the most popular television shows ever, was set in Dodge City, Kansas, in the late 1800s, starring James Arness as Marshall Matt Dillon.

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Camouflaging

Two US soldiers apply camouflage to their faces before participating in an exercise to practise the defence of American installations along the Panama Canal on Aug 17. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Show of force in Panama by US

PANAMA CITY, Aug 18. (UPI): US troops in Panama flexed their muscles yesterday in extensive manoeuvres in nine American military installations in Panama stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific coasts, authorities said.

In Washington, the Pentagon said the exercises by the US Southern Command were intended to test the readiness of American forces to respond quickly to protect US citizens and defend the Panama Canal and described them as the largest in more than a year.

The manoeuvres were carried out amid rising tensions between Washington and military strongman General Manuel Antonio Noriega, head of the Panama Defence Force and the country's de facto ruler.

The southern command said US troops staged the operations "to test their quickness and efficiency... in securing three important military areas."

US troops carried out operations at Howard Air Force Base, Fort Kobbe, Rodman Naval Station, Fort Clayton, Corozal Military Reservation and Albrook Air Force Station near the Pacific Coast as well as manoeuvres at Fort Davis and Fort Sherman along the Atlantic Coast.

US soldiers also commanded southern command headquarters in Quarry Heights and the Gorgas US Army Hospital in Panama City.

Under the 1977 Torrijos-Carter Panama Canal treaties, both US and Panamanian forces are responsible for protecting Gorgas Hospital, while the other military installations are under American jurisdiction.

The United States has about 12,000 troops in Panama, 1,900 of them deployed in May by President Bush in response to growing tension between Noriega and the US government, which has indicted Noriega on drug-trafficking charges. Both former President Reagan and Bush have tried to get Noriega to step down from power.

US troops arrested 29 Panamanians last week in the city of Arraijan, on the western outskirts of Panama City, after they tried to block the path of five American tanks.

On Tuesday, US Marines secured the US embassy, climbing down rope ladders from seven Black Hawk helicopters in "rapid descent" exercises. The US Southern Command denied Panama's charges the Marines were trying to agitate the Panamanian Defence Forces, asserting that soldiers must train regularly to prepare themselves for any possible situation.

Also yesterday, opposition leaders held talks with the government.

## Drug smuggler sings

# Cartels fear US justice

WASHINGTON, Aug 18. (Agencies): A convicted Colombian drug cartel smuggler with a \$3 million price on his head told a Senate panel yesterday that cartel leaders most fear being snatched and dragged to face justice in the United States.

Max Murelstein, an American who worked for the Medellín cartel and was convicted in 1986 of cocaine smuggling, also told the Senate Judiciary Committee that more progress could be made in the war against drugs if US law enforcement agencies quit squabbling among themselves over turf and co-

operated more. Judiciary Committee Chairman Joseph R. Biden, Democrat of Delaware, said Murelstein's co-operation with US authorities had prompted the drug cartel to offer \$3 million for his murder.

The lack of co-operation between US law enforcement agencies also was cited by Richard Gregorie, a former federal prosecutor in Miami, who obtained the drug-trafficking indictment against Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega.

Gregorie also suggested replacing all US currency in circulation with new bills to force drug dealers with huge stashes of cash to risk exposure by seeking the new currency or face the loss of their wealth. That suggestion was backed by drug banking expert Norman Bailey, who said it would deliver a "body blow" to big drug lords.

Murelstein, who served two years in prison before being paroled, is co-operating with federal officials and now living under another name under the Federal Witness Relocation Programme. He testified from behind a screen and through a voice distorting device. He claimed responsibility for smuggling 56 tons of cocaine in the United States over a period of years until his 1985 arrest.

Judges shut down Colombia's courts indefinitely yesterday to demand more government protection from ruthless drug lords believed responsible for Wednesday's slaying of a Bogota judge.

"We want the president to tell the country once and for all if he is interested in judges living or not living," National Judges Association President Antonio Suarez Nino said.

The crippling strike shut down all of Colombia's courts by late yesterday, according to Justice Ministry spokesman Amparo Gomez.

The Judges Association has called on all 4,379 judges to resign en masse unless President Virgilio Barco launches a dramatic crackdown against hired assassins, blamed for killing more than 50 judges in Colombia in the last decade.

Heading the call, 50 of Bogota's 55 appeals court judges handed in their resignations by late yesterday, Gomez said.

The police commander of Colombia's Antioquia State, home of the notorious Medellín drug-smuggling cartel, was shot dead today in a hall of machine-gun fire near his home, authorities said.

Colonel Valdemar Franklin Quintero, commander of Colombia's most violent state, was killed along with his bodyguard, Antioquia State Governor Helena Herran de Montoya said.

## Drug-threat Guarded

CHICAGO, Aug 18. (AP): Two Roman Catholic priests leading a campaign against the sale of drug paraphernalia have been given 24-hour police protection because of threats from people identifying themselves as drug dealers.

Bodyguards were assigned on Wednesday to the Rev. George Clements and the Rev. Michael Pfeiffer, said police superintendent Leroy Martin.

"It certainly will make me feel a lot more secure in carrying on the war, but I intended to carry on whether I got the protection or not," said Clements, 57, an adoptive father and pastor of Holy Angels Church.

# Bush to announce anti-drug plan

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, Aug 18. (UPI): President Bush will deliver his first nationally televised address on Sept 5 to announce his comprehensive anti-drug strategy that administration sources say will cost about \$7.5 billion.

Bush intends to reach final decision on the plan, including how to pay for it, during his three-week vacation at his seaside home in Kennebunkport, Maine, that began late Wednesday.

He will have some tough financial, and consequently political, choices to make. Vowing not to increase taxes, Bush said

he will finance the drug initiative by shifting funds from existing federal programmes, a matter now being reviewed by budget director Richard Darman.

"Stay tuned, and we will show you in September," Bush told a White House news conference Tuesday.

On Wednesday, press secretary Martin Fitzwater said Bush would announce the final version of his plan in a televised address from Washington on Sept 5, the day after he returns to Washington.

Travelling with the president Wednes-

day on Air Force One, Fitzwater said Bush "has decided most of the big issues" of the drug plan. "The major strategy has been approved," although details and funding need to be worked out. Bush has said he would shift funds in existing programmes rather than raise taxes to pay for the drug war.

Administration sources say the plan will cost about \$7.5 billion, more than \$1 billion above current federal anti-drug spending.

Sources say the plan, as drafted by

federal drug policy director William Bennett, calls for a crackdown on casual narcotics users and street traffic; expanded education and treatment programmes; and \$200 million in increased funding for state and local law enforcement efforts.

The sources say the draft plan would also provide up to \$295 more in new military and economic assistance to South American nations to combat cocaine traffickers. The military aid would be in the form of advisers and equipment, not combat troops, sources say.

## Europe to battle against drugs

ROME, Aug 18. (Reuters): Europe is fighting to stem a sharply rising tide of drugs hitting its cities, and throttle the expanding power of the continent's main supplier, the Sicilian Mafia.

Narcotics experts believe Europe faces a new flood of hard drugs from two directions — heroin from Southwest Asia, where recent easing of regional conflicts has unblocked trade routes, and the highly addictive cocaine derivative "crack" from Latin America.

Government leaders also fear that the removal of trade barriers within the European Economic Community after 1992 could give organised crime groups free rein to increase drugs sales and launder the proceeds unimpeded.

"We are at war," Frank Panessa of the US Drug Enforcement Administration in Rome told Reuters. "In the United States our prisons are loaded with narcotic violators. Most of our enforcement effort goes into narcotics. And that's happening in European countries now too."

Panessa said Europe was certain to be swamped with crack since the going rate for cocaine was about five times higher there than in the United States where the drugs have caused havoc in just three years.

"In 1985 in New York City there were 15 crack arrests. In the first half alone of 1987 there were 17,000. This is something that hasn't hit Europe yet, but it will," he said.

"You're getting something highly addictive, something that everyone can afford." At their annual summit in Paris last month leaders of the seven major industrialised democracies expressed extreme concern over drugs and resolved to use new banking and finance laws to track down "dirty" money.

Nowhere is the alarm louder than in Italy, home of the Mafia. Police here have seized as much cocaine and heroin in the first five months of 1989 as in the whole of 1988.

Around 800 people died of drug-related causes in Italy in 1988, the highest toll in Europe, and over half the number have already been killed in the first five months of this year.

A rising proportion of Italian AIDS cases are drugs related — currently 70 per cent — and previously carefree rich cities like Verona and Parma have rapidly been hit by addiction and drug-related crime.

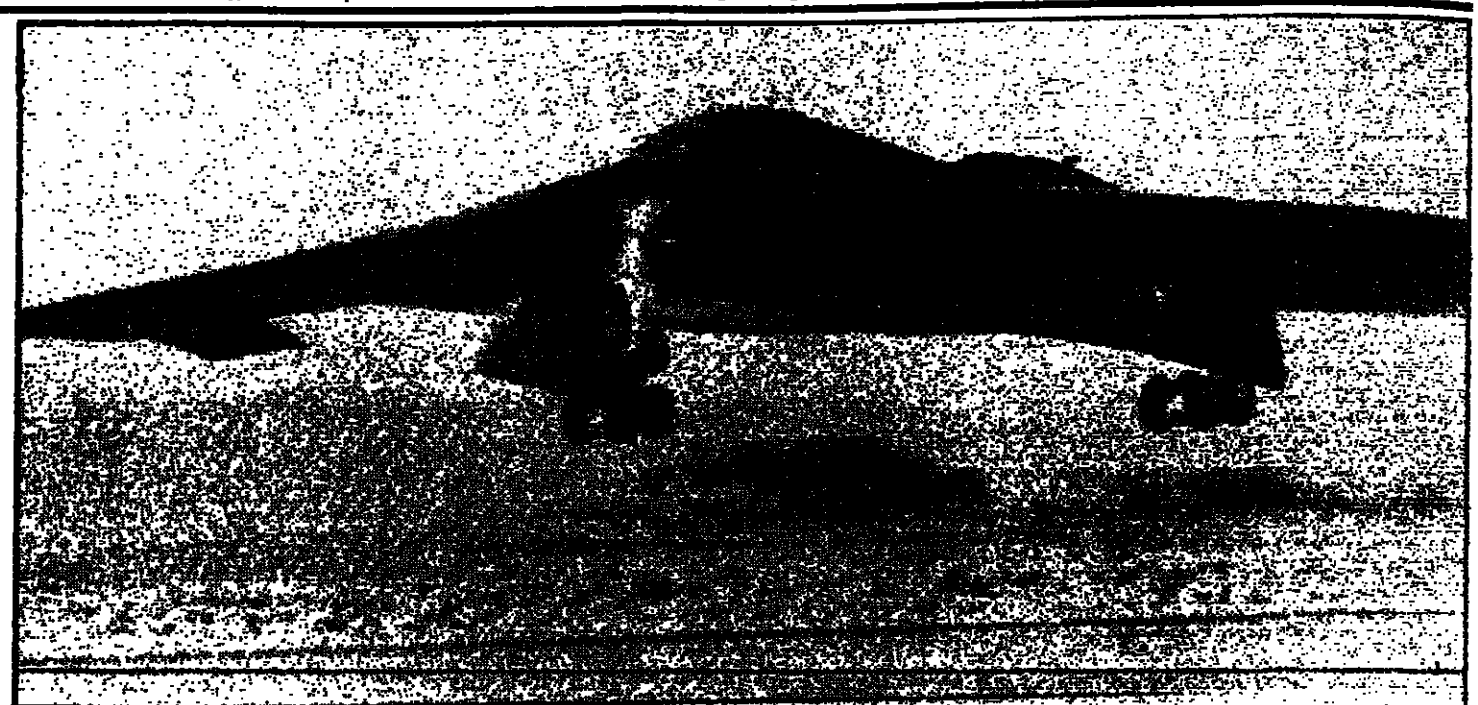
Italy's new Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti has declared an emergency over the Mafia, which narcotics experts say imports and distributes most of Europe's hard drugs and supplies around 40 per cent of the US heroin market.

But a small group of international drug experts and intellectuals has made a radical proposal to fight the problem. They believe the best way to stamp out the drugs scourge is to legalise narcotics.

In June this policy was an Italian member of the Anti-prohibition League a seat in the European parliament.

Drawing parallels with the US prohibition on alcohol in the 1920s and 1930s under which gangsters flourished and thousands fell ill or died because of impure drink, the League argues that the only way to loosen the Mafia's hold is to bring drugs into the open market.

The new European parliamentarian, 39-year-old radio journalist and left-wing activist Marco Taradash, believes legalisation could take away 40 trillion lire (\$30 billion) in drug profits from the Mafia.



## Wings clipped

The controversial B-2 Stealth Bomber had its second test flight on Wednesday at Edwards Air Force Base, California. The flight was cut from a scheduled three-hour flight to one hour due to a possible loss of oil pressure.

At the Pentagon, Air Force Major Pat Mullaney said it had not been determined 24 hours after the truncated B-2 flight whether the cockpit warning light that indicated low oil pressure was faulty or working properly.

The light indicated low oil pressure in the sleek "Flying Wings" auxiliary power system, prompting the two-man crew to cut short by two hours the flight of the controversial boomerang-shaped bomber over the California desert.

The glitch did not involve the engine itself, but an auxiliary unit that drives the engine's hydraulic pump and starter for the turbines.

Mullaney said it had not been determined when the Stealth bomber would fly again.

## Design 'flaw' mars Trident test

WASHINGTON, Aug 18. (AP): The US Navy is looking into a possible design miscalculation in its largest nuclear missile, the Trident 2, that may have caused the latest test failure of the weapon.

Rear Adm Kenneth C. Malley, chief of the Navy's Ballistic Missile Programme, said that despite computer simulations, engineers seriously underestimated the amount of pressure on the Trident as it thrusts upward after being launched from underwater.

The bomber's test flights are being watched closely by members of Congress who are critical of its high cost. At \$530 million per plane, the B-2 is the most expensive airplane ever built. The Bush administration wants to buy 132 of the boomerang-shaped bombers at a total cost of about \$70 billion.

# DC-10s under scrutiny Tough checks likely

WASHINGTON, Aug 18. (AP): The National Transportation Safety Board, frustrated in attempts to find the cause of the Sioux City, Iowa, crash that killed 111 people, is preparing to recommend more frequent and more thorough inspections of all DC-10 engines, the ABC television network reported.

The network said on Wednesday night the safety board is "fairly certain" to make the recommendation as a precaution against another explosive engine failure such as the one that led to the July 19 crash of United Airlines Flight 232.

Led by Lt. Col. Edward J. Connelley, an NTSB spokesman, said he could not confirm that a recommendation for

increased—and, tougher inspections for DC-10 engines was being considered.

"We don't discuss anything that might be considered or discussed until the board votes on a recommendation," he said.

Nothing in the records for the engine and the plane showed any problems or violations of maintenance regulations, the network reported.

Engines on two DC-10 passenger jets have suffered explosive failure in the past month.

About two weeks after the Sioux City, Iowa, crash, a Northwest Airlines DC-10 made an emergency landing in Denver after its No. 2 tail engine apparently began disintegrating in flight.

# DC-10 tape aired

WASHINGTON, Aug 18. (AP): Here are some of the interchanges between air traffic controllers at Farmington, Minnesota, and the crew of United Airlines flight 232 after the explosion of the tail engine on July 19, as reported Wednesday night by the ABC television network.

UAL: "We just lost no. 2 engine. Like to lower our altitude please."

A little later:

UAL: "We just lost no. 2 and some hydraulics. The airplane is marginally controllable here."

Controllers issued instructions to other flights and to United 232.

Farm: "United 232 descend and maintain flight level 290 and what will be your intention sir?" Flight level 290 means 29,000 feet.

The answer:

UAL: "Stand by. Stand by."

Second later:

UAL: "United 232. We're declaring an emergency here (controllers interject here: Declaring an emergency) and request landing at the nearest available airport."

Farm: "232, you are cleared to Des Moines."

UAL: "Sir we need the works, 232, we are just, uh, having trouble controlling the airplane right now."

The flight crew is patched through to the company's maintenance base at San Francisco, where experts can offer nothing that helps.

Watching the gyrations of the DC-10, a controller notes that Sioux City is now the closest airport.

Farm: "United 232, your present heading looks a little better for Sioux City. Would you like to go to Sioux City?"

UAL: "Affirmative."

The pilots are steering by applying different amounts of power to the two remaining engines, one on each wing.

UAL: "We have zero rudder control, uh, no aileron control."

The controllers are preparing to turn over the flight to the control tower at the Sioux City airport.

Farm (to Sioux City): "He's having a hard time controlling the plane right now, trying to slow down and get set on a steady bearing right now. As soon as he gets comfortable, I will shift him over to you and he will be yours."

A United Airlines flight attendant who seriously injured in the July crash of a DC-10 jetliner filed a lawsuit Wednesday seeking damages.

**Radar helps avoid air burst**

DENVER, Colorado, Aug 18. (AP): An airport system designed to detect dangerous wind shears helped three jetliners avoid a potentially catastrophic shear last month, officials said.

"You can definitely say the system worked," John McCarthy, director of wind-shear research for the national centre for atmospheric research in Boulder, Colorado, has said.

A wind shear is a sudden change of wind direction that creates a powerful downdraft of air. The gust can be strong enough to drive a jetliner into the ground when it is landing or taking off.

Powerful wind shears called microbursts have caused at least five accidents that claimed more than 500 lives in the last 15 years.

## Mexican wanted for questioning in bomb attack

SAN DIEGO, Aug 18. (UPI): A Mexican man described as "very dangerous" is being sought for questioning by Mexican authorities in the March 10 bombing of a van belonging to Navy Capt. Will C. Rogers III, the San Diego Union reported yesterday.

Rogers' wife, Sharon, escaped unhurt when a pipe bomb exploded under the family van she was driving March 10, eight months after the USS Vincennes, a navy cruiser under Rogers' command, mistakenly shot down an Iranian civilian jetliner over the Gulf, killing

all 290 aboard. Citing anonymous US and Mexican government sources, the newspaper reported that Julio Alfonso "Mario" Renterio is wanted by Mexican authorities who are co-operating with the US Federal Bureau of Investigation in its continuing probe of the incident.

"The information we have is that this man Mario is always armed and is considered very dangerous by the US Department of Justice. He is wanted for questioning about making the Rogers pipe bomb," a Mexican official

who requested anonymity told the union.

Justice Department sources said Renterio, described as being in his late 30s and with a scar under one eye, was last seen in Tijuana, Mexico, and routinely carries submachine guns, the paper said.

FBI agent Gary Latture confirmed that Renterio is one of many possible suspects but said he is not considered a "particularly significant" figure in the investigation, the union reported.



# Children of New Delhi prostitutes get a helping hand

NEW DELHI, India, Aug. 18, (AP): The bedraggled, keen-eyed children on Gurgaon Road grow up fast. By the time they are 3 or 4, they know what goes on in the dingy, window-lined apartments that are their homes by day and their mothers' brothels by night. Most are drawn into the fresh trade by their early teens because they find no alternative. But now, some are finding a way out of the capital's best-known red-light district. Government foster homes, previously off-limits to prostitutes' children, are opening their doors. The women who work on G.B. Road say the new programme offers the best hope of preventing their sons from

becoming pimps and their daughters from becoming prostitutes. "If the children live with their mothers, there is no escape. They all get involved," said Nimmi Bai, the matronly, betel-nut-cheewing madame of one of the 80 brothels on G.B. Road. "The boys pimp for their mothers and sisters. The girls... well, it depends how old they are."

New Delhi's Social Welfare Department runs the homes. Khairati Lal Bhola, a 61-year-old motor-parts dealer turned social worker, encourages prostitutes to enrol their children. "The major breakthrough was when I convinced the government they did not need the father's name for admitting the children," Bhola said. "Persuading the prostitutes was easy. They hate bringing up their children in a brothel. And they can visit their children once a month."

Earlier, schools denied admission to prostitutes' children because most of them didn't know who their fathers were. Admission forms for all government institutions require the name of the applicant's father. "At least 75 children have been admitted to the homes," Bhola said. "It's only a beginning. There are 4,000 children in the brothels on G.B. Road. Few of the 3,500 prostitutes here use contraceptives."

He said Nimmi Bai, who is 52, is one of two or three brothel keepers who encourage adoptions. "I know how horrible it can be. Life here is a bazaar," Nimmi Bai said, interrupting Bhola. "We are branded. Why should our children be?" Nimmi Bai, who said she was in the "profession" earlier, said that in the 1960s she paid a family 300 rupees a month —

then worth about \$40 — to raise her son and daughter away from the brothels on G.B. Road. She said her children are now adults with respectable jobs, and she sometimes visits them. But these informal adoptions often mean the children never see their mothers again, and there is no guarantee they will be treated well. Adopting families usually discourage visits and sometimes use the children as servants, Nimmi Bai said. Bhola said the foster homes have another advantage. The prostitutes may be able to save the money they would have spent for their children's upbringing. "The foster

## Pretoria detains defiant leader

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 18, (Agencies): Police opened fire today on black employees outside a pie factory where they had been locked out by management. At least 15 workers were injured, police and union officials said.

Police also arrested an organiser of anti-apartheid defiance campaign and banned a Cape Town rally called for Sunday by outlawed rights organisations.

Mohammed Valli Moosa, an official of the banned United Democratic Front and a leader of a new campaign to defy apartheid restrictions, was arrested at his Johannesburg office today and held there as security police searched his files.

Police ordered journalists from the building after the reporters saw Valli Moosa in custody and were told he was under arrest.

There was no immediate indication what charges might be filed against Valli Moosa, one of three activists who escaped from detention last year and took sanctuary at the US consulate in Johannesburg.

Another escapee, Murphy Morobe, said Valli Moosa's arrest violated the government's promise that the three were free to leave the consulate without fear of being arrested again. "It shows how easy it is for the government to go back on its word," said Morobe, who called on the US government to condemn the arrest.

The food and allied workers union said scores of workers assembled early today outside the Mama's pies factory on Johannesburg's southeastern outskirts, a day after the company locked them out because of a four-week-old wage dispute.

The union said police used whips and live ammunition to disperse the workers and made several arrests. The union said 15 workers were injured, some seriously.

Capt. Reg Crewe, a spokesman at police headquarters in Pretoria, said police acted only after workers began pulling on the locked factory gates and ignored an order to disperse. He said officers initially used whips, but fired shotguns when some fleeing workers threw stones.

He said four people were slightly injured by the shotgun fire and 15 others suffered minor injuries while being dispersed. He said no one was arrested.

It was the second violent labour clash in two days.

On Thursday, police said at least 10 people were injured outside the British-owned Eveready plant in Port Elizabeth in clashes between striking workers and people recruited to fill their jobs.

Crewe, asked about the banned Cape Town rally, said he did not know if similar rallies planned for Sunday in other cities also would be banned.

Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu said the ban was "inflammatory and dangerous" and called for an alternative rally at his church in Cape Town.

The United Democratic Front, a nationwide coalition of activist organisations, and 16 other anti-apartheid groups last year were ordered to halt all activities. They intended to declare themselves legal on Sunday, the front's sixth anniversary.

The South African delegation has been ordered to leave a world conference of mayors in Paris following pressure from anti-apartheid campaigners, a senior delegate said today.

■ **Mozambique:** Mozambican rebels said today they were halting immediate military attacks on a key road and rail corridor linking Malawi, Zaire and Zambia with the Mozambican port of Nacala.

■ **Namibia:** San Nujoma, President of the Organisation of People of South-West Africa (SWAPO), has announced plans to return to Namibia in the next few days after 20 years in exile.

■ **Uganda:** Gunmen ambushed three trucks carrying 30 tons of relief food to Sudanese refugees in northwestern Uganda and stole food, money and clothes after stripping the drivers, a UN official said.

■ **Angola:** Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has reaffirmed his support for shaky peace talks to end the country's 14-year-old civil war amid reports of escalating clashes between government forces and UNITA rebels.

■ **Zimbabwe:** The death toll in a bus accident in Zimbabwe yesterday has risen from 32 to 34 and the government has declared the tragedy a national disaster, an official statement said.

## Premadasa talks with Marxists

Security situation worsening

COLOMBO, Aug. 18, (Agencies): Sri Lanka's Sinhala militants met for the first time yesterday with President Ranasinghe Premadasa, informed sources said today.

Members of the Deshapremi Janatha Viyaparaya (DJV) or Patriotic People's Organisation, the military wing of the underground Sinhalese extremist group, the JVP or People's Liberation Front, and five other political and student groups had a talk with Premadasa on how to solve the current crisis in the country, sources said.

The DJV submitted several demands which according to it were the only pragmatic solutions available to end the conflict.

The President, according to the sources had said the front's formula could be implemented only if there was a ceasefire in the entire country for a week or at least for two days. "All political parties must unanimously agree to this," Premadasa was quoted as saying.

### Bonn packs up in Lanka

## Projects halted

COLOMBO, Aug. 18, (Reuters): West Germany is closing temporarily projects in Sri Lanka areas affected by rebel violence and asked expatriate workers and their families to return home, an embassy official said today.

She said the decision was taken yesterday since there had been little work at six agriculture projects in central and north-central areas at Kandy, Kurunegala and Anuradhapura.

"None of our nationals have been affected but we closed the projects since there was no work being done and also there could be some risk to them," she said.

She could not give the number affected but said some would return to West Germany over the weekend.

Diplomats from other missions said they were watching the situation but had not taken any decision to close projects.

Violence by the leftist People's Liberation Front has paralysed government in several areas in the past few months.

The front, blamed for killing about 3,000 people in a two-year campaign to overthrow the government, has also hit business with wildcat strikes.

Military sources said that though 20 to 30 people are killed daily by rebels and pro-government groups, foreign workers have been harmed so far.

The meeting with JVP, which had earlier ignored Premadasa's calls for peace talks, was a major political triumph for the President.

The front demanded the immediate withdrawal of curfew and the emergency regulations, the disbanding of the present Westminster-style of government, permit the front to hold public meetings (which, will automatically bring the JVP on to public platforms), disband all illegal armies, open schools and universities and retire compulsorily services personnel involved in indiscriminate killings.

The demands also include abrogation of the controversial Indo-Sri Lanka peace accord, dissolving Parliament and provincial councils, holding a general and presidential election the same day under a caretaker regime, compelling registered mass media to publish in full the manifestoes and policies of all political parties contesting the elections.

### Killings

More than 20 political killings are reported daily from Sinhalese areas of southern Sri Lanka and the security situation throughout the Indian Ocean island is worsening rapidly, according to politicians and diplomats.

Clashes between Tamil rebels and Indian troops, in Sri Lanka to police a pact intended to end a separatist rebellion, spread terror among the minority Tamils in the north and east.

Security forces ordered to wipe out the JVP have wide emergency powers, though Premadasa suggested to a veteran opposition leader a ceasefire as a first step towards peace talks.

"Things are aggravating in the country. No solution can be found under the existing Westminster type of parliamentary government," said S.D. Bandanayake, who discussed the situation with Premadasa for 90 minutes yesterday.

"The security forces are making headway in their operations against the subversives," said Ranjan Wijeratne, Foreign Minister and Deputy Defence Minister.

The JVP has successfully orchestrated strikes and disrupted essential services merely by distributing handbills or putting up posters threatening to shoot those who do not obey their orders.

A strike crippled bus and train services on Tuesday and forced offices and banks to close early.

### Amnesty

Amnesty International called on the government of Sri Lanka yesterday to take urgent action to end what it called a rising tide of killings, disappearances of people, torture and arbitrary detentions by security forces in the south of the country during the past two months.

Amnesty also blamed the Indian peace-keeping force in northern Sri Lanka for the massacre Aug 2 of 51 people, including six women and seven children, in reprisal for the deaths of six Indian soldiers during a guerrilla ambush by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

An Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman in New Delhi said today Premadasa's special envoy Bradman Weerakoon had left with fresh proposals on an Indian troop withdrawal. He was expected to meet Premadasa tomorrow.

A joint communiqué outlining agreed positions on the withdrawal and a settlement of the Tamil insurgency in the north and east of the island was likely to be issued tomorrow the spokesman said.

## Zia followers flock to tomb

Political tinge to religious event

ISLAMABAD, Aug. 18, (AP): Thousands of flag-waving Pakistanis converged on the capital's huge Faisal Mosque yesterday to mark the first anniversary of the death of military President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.

Green and white banners bearing his picture and slogans such as "Martyrs live forever" and "Zia laid down his life for Pakistan" fluttered from poles along the three miles (4.8 kilometres) of Faisal Avenue leading to the modern, domed structure.

The crowd, estimated by Pakistan television at up to 70,000, was the strongest showing of opposition so far to the Pakistan People's Party government of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Benazir's main conservative rival and Zia loyalist, Nawaz Sharif, claimed yesterday's turnout was an indictment of her populism and a vindication of the late president.

"It was a referendum in our favour," Sharif told a news conference. He chairs a nine-party conservative alliance which controls Punjab.

He repeated his call for new elections despite Benazir's mandate of a five-year term. Zia's son, Ijaz-ul-Haq, led a late afternoon prayer service at Zia's green and white marble mausoleum, which is shaded by a gazebo on the mosque's lawn.

"It was a religious service but it

was also an approval of the policies of my father," Ijaz, 38, said.

Zia, US Ambassador Arnold Raphel and 28 others died in the crash of Zia's presidential plane. Investigators said it appeared to be sabotage but they haven't said by whom.

Ijaz charged in a recent interview with the Associated Press that an organisation named after Benazir's father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, played a role in the plane crash.

Hundreds of policemen and federal officers were called into the tree-lined Pakistani capital to keep order for yesterday's anniversary. There were no reports of violence.

The government appealed to PPP activists not to hold counter rallies that might provoke violence.

But supporters and opponents of Zia clashed on Wednesday in Rawalpindi.

Twelve tear-gas shells were fired to disperse the two clashing groups," a police official said of activists of PPP and members of the Islamic Democratic Alliance.

■ Senior Federal Minister Begum Nasrat Bhutto will lead Pakistan's delegation to the non-alignment summit and the annual session of the United Nations General Assembly next month, according to a Foreign Ministry spokesman.

## Bombs kill 11; students fight in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Aug. 18, (Agencies): Suspected Buddhist insurgents exploded three bombs in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, killing at least 11 people and injuring 41 others, police said yesterday.

At least 10 people were killed and 40 injured in two blasts on Wednesday, said a senior police officer in Khagrachari.

He said one explosion occurred in a crowded market in Khagrachari and the other in a passenger boat on a lake in Rangamati, 70 kilometres (45 miles) south of Khagrachari.

The boat was severely damaged in the blast, he said. It was not immediately known how many people were on the boat, which usually carries about 100 passengers.

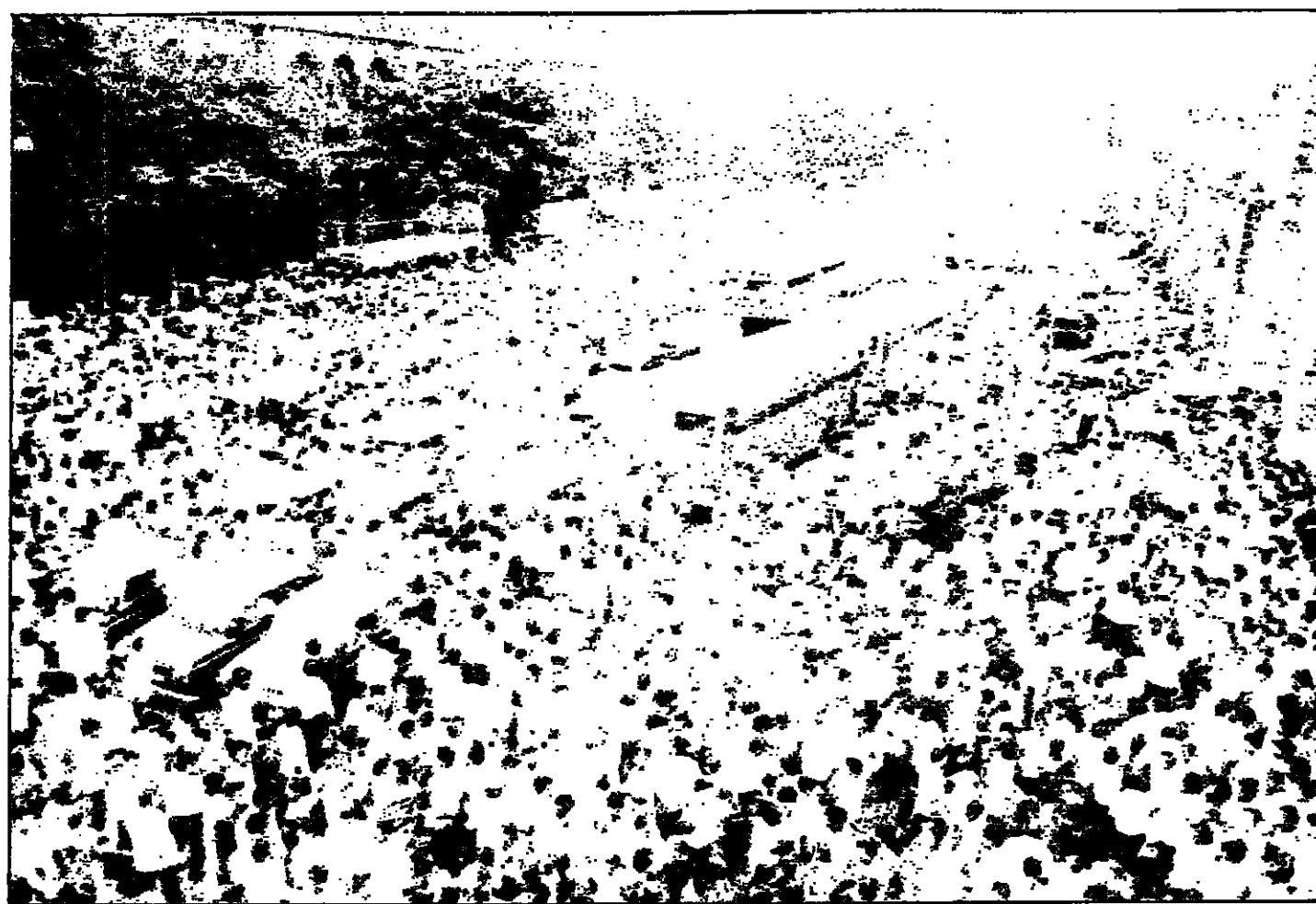
On Tuesday, a bomb exploded on a road in Khagrachari, killing one person and wounding another, the

officer said without elaborating. Rival student groups fought with rocks, fists and small bombs at universities across Bangladesh yesterday, leaving one person dead and about 300 others wounded, police said.

Police reported the fighting erupted during protests staged by the Islamic fundamentalist Chhatra Shibir group over the Monday death of one of its activists, allegedly slain by members of the leftist Nationalist Student Party.

Subsequent small battles between the two factions have left one student dead and some 40 others injured, but police reported yesterday's violence was of far greater intensity, involving most of the nation's universities.

■ President Hussain Muhammad Ershad returned home on Wednesday after a two-day visit to Iraq.



### Power failure

Top: a sea of humanity clogs the road opposite Bombay's famed Victoria railway station as a major power failure yesterday threw the city's peak evening traffic into chaos. The three-hour power failure

brought trains to a halt and stranded two million people trying to use buses and taxis. Below: people climb aboard buses which are stopped in traffic. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Bomb kills 15 in Punjab

AMRITSAR, India, Aug. 18, (UPI): A powerful bomb believed planted on a bus by Sikh radicals today killed 15 Hindu pilgrims and wounded about 25, while 17 other people died in bloodshed linked to northern Punjab's separatist drive, officials said.

Political violence has claimed more than 5,000 lives since Sikh radicals began fighting in 1983 to create a theocratic nation named "Khalistan" — the "land of the pure" — they claim India's 16 million Sikhs need to escape alleged discrimination by the Hindu-dominated central government.

Gurcharan Singh, general manager of the state-run Punjab Roadways Corp., said the device exploded as the vehicle was about to leave for Amritsar from Chintpoorni village, the site of a Hindu shrine 80 miles (130 km) northeast of the Sikh holy city.

He said the driver and conductor were drinking tea at the village's bus station outside the vehicle, which was laden with about 40 pilgrims for the return journey to Amritsar from the mountain village in Punjab's

### Talks on Siachen resume in Rawalpindi

ISLAMABAD, Aug. 18, (KUNA): Talks on the disputed Siachen glacier between the military representatives of India and Pakistan resumed in Rawalpindi today.

Lieutenant-General B H Singh, the director-general of military operations, led the Indian military delegation while Lieutenant-General Imtiaz Warriach, director-general of joint staff headquar-

ters headed the home delegation.

A press release of the inter-services public relations directorate issued in Rawalpindi this afternoon said the talks would continue for a "couple of days."

Last round of talks on the 5-year-old dispute between the two neighbouring countries was held in the Indian capital of New Delhi.

neighbouring state of Himachal Pradesh.

Singh said the explosion virtually destroyed the bus and instantly killed 15 passengers, among them two women and one child. The blast wounded some 25 other occupants, 10 of them seriously, he said.

"I believe the bomb was planted in Chintpoorni because the conductor ensured that all the luggage from the (incoming journey from) Amritsar was cleared from the bus before they returned," Singh said.

In a similar attack on Aug. 9, Sikh radicals exploded a bomb aboard a bus as it drove through northern Haryana, killing 18

people and wounding 31. The extremists have often taken their campaign beyond Punjab to neighbouring states.

Elsewhere, police officials reported 17 people were slain in overnight political violence, 12 of them militants killed in clashes with security personnel and intergang rivalries.

They said assailants gunned down the father and two brothers of a member of the hardline "Khalistan Liberation Force" in Ferozepur city, 50 miles (80 km) south of Amritsar.

Militants also shot dead a police superintendent and his deputy at Patiala, 140 miles (230 km) southeast of Amritsar, they

said. The fatalities came as Punjab police chief KPS Gill reported security personnel had since Aug 1 killed at least 62 militants and captured 52 others in an ongoing swoop through Punjab's Amritsar, Gurdaspur and Ferozepur districts, which border Pakistan.

Gill said 23 civilians and five officers had also died in the actions, which had led to the capture of sizable quantities of arms and ammunition.

■ Last weekend about 150 people were killed in tea-growing Assam state in clashes between Assamese and tribesmen fighting for a separate Bodo state within India.



## NEWS IN BRIEF



## Tourist missing

Hundreds of gendarmes and firefighters searched yesterday for a British woman tourist who disappeared five days ago in northern France after leaving her country hotel on a bicycle, police said on Friday.

Fiona Jones, 26, from Kingsbury, Warwickshire last seen near the Chateau hotel of Bellinglise in Elincourt Sainte Marguerite, a village in the Oise region north of Paris on Monday. She told her husband Mark she was going to visit a local museum. Police have been searching the forests of the hilly

region and police divers have checked the ponds surrounding the castle but found no trace of Mrs Jones, who is a teacher in Birmingham.

The couple were celebrating their first wedding anniversary during the holiday. Mark Jones, the director of a sports promotion company, also was looking into a possible job designing a golf course for the hotel where they were staying.

Jones ruled out any possibility his wife may have vanished of her own accord. She was not carrying her passport with her on the bicycle ride.



## 'Shoot elsewhere'

West German freelance photographer Nick Vogel, charged with possessing a rifle magazine under suspicious circumstances, was released on bail yesterday and ordered to stay out of Northern Ireland.

Vogel, 22, was arrested in Belfast on Tuesday during nationalist riots marking the 20th anniversary of British troop deployment in Northern Ireland.

He was granted £1,000 (\$1,560) bail in Belfast's high court on Friday and told not to return to Northern Ireland except for court appearances.

(Reuters wirephoto)



## Collins hospital

Dynasty actress Joan Collins on her way to Nice, France, at London's Heathrow Airport on Thursday, after arriving from Detroit, America where she visited a hospital named after her, and presented a fund-raising cheque to help build a new extension.

(Reuters wirephoto)

## Non-red head of Poland likely

(Continued from Page 1)

He said he was concerned about the duties awaiting him, but not a "total pessimist."

"There are huge troubles, huge problems. It won't be easy," he said. "I am afraid of many things, but if I were only afraid, I would be a total pessimist. Somebody has to try it."

"I am a believer and I believe providence cares for us."

Jaruzelski reportedly chose Mazowiecki from three Solidarity candidates and would offer him the prime minister's post in a coalition government led by Solidarity and two minor parties.

The President's nominee must be approved by the Sejm, one chamber of the new national legislature. The Solidarity-led alliance controls 264 seats in the 460-member chamber.

Even in a government led by Solidarity, Jaruzelski would control the army and foreign affairs; local governments would remain in the hands of the Communist party; and party members would control the courts.

In addition, tens of thousands of Poland's bureaucrats owe their jobs to the party, and 75 per cent of management jobs — ranging from shop managers to factory heads — are held by party members.

Mazowiecki is editor of the Solidarity weekly newspaper Tygodnik Solidarnosc. The other candidates recommended by Solidarity were Jacek Kuron, a Solidarity lawmaker, and Bronislaw Geremek, Solidarity's parliamentary leader.

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa persuaded the United Peasant Party and the Democratic Party — both formerly aligned with the communists — to join a coalition government with the independent trade union movement.

Communist Prime Minister Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak resigned yesterday after trying for two weeks to form a government.

Jaruzelski met with Walesa, the leaders of the smaller parties and Kiszczak yesterday and reportedly agreed to the coalition idea and to pick a member of the trade union he once outlawed to lead it.

Walesa, winner of the 1983 Nobel peace prize for founding Solidarity, had said he did not want the job.

The new government, which would be the first non-communist leadership in Poland in 45 years, inherits an economy wracked by inflation, shortages and a \$39-billion foreign debt.

US officials called the move toward non-communist leadership historical. US State Department spokesman Richard Boucher issued a statement intended to urge the Soviet Union not to interfere.

US President George Bush is not considering expanding the \$119-million economic aid package he has proposed for Poland despite the non-communist-led government taking shape in the East bloc nation, his spokesman said today.

## ICRC warned Internal crisis

GENEVA, Aug. 18. (AP) — A five-month old confidential letter signed by 200 staff members of the International Committee of the Red Cross surfaced today, with the authors warning that the all-Swiss humanitarian agency is in a crisis threatening its survival.

The ICRC, which acts as neutral intermediary in international wars and internal armed conflicts, has lost its "moral attractiveness and power of persuasion," according to excerpts of the letter broadcast by Swiss television.

For the authors, the ICRC is in the grips of a "general crisis of confidence," causing a climate of distrust among the staff. This, it warned, could lead to a "collective suicide" by the organization. It called on the ICRC leadership to show "a little more courage."

ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga today confirmed the existence of the letter but said claims of a "crisis" within the agency were contradicted by its achievements.



## Refugee crisis

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl says he is ready to visit East German leader Erich Honecker if it helps resolve the East German refugee crisis.

"If it is urgently necessary to make personal contact, I would do so immediately, if it appeared useful," Kohl said in an interview on West German television today. But he said he had no immediate plans to visit East Berlin.

The number of East Germans trying to reach West Germany both legally and illegally is soaring.

Over 300 are occupying Bonn's embassies in East Berlin and Budapest. They are refusing to leave until they are granted safe passage to the West.

West Germany is trying to negotiate permission for the refugees to emigrate, but East Berlin wants them to return home, promising only that they will not be punished.

East German refugees sleep in the room of a private Austrian help organiza-

tion for East German refugees in Deutsch Kreuz next to the Austrian-Hungarian border.

Upgrading discussions from senior civil servant level, Rudolf Seiters, the minister in Chancellor Helmut Kohl's office responsible for East Germany, will meet East Germany Deputy Foreign Minister Herbert Krollkowski over the weekend, the sources said.

Foreign Minister spokesman Hanns Schumacher said the Budapest embassy was now housing after more than 800 East Germans, including 41 who are occupying the embassy.

Faced with a mounting influx of refugees, the Bonn government also announced that West Germany would open a second camp for East Germans because the first was overflowing. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Union agreement to be rewritten

Soviets for radical change

MOSCOW, Aug. 18. (Agencies) — The Communist Party yesterday opened the way for radical political change through expanded powers for the 15 Soviet republics and a possible rewrite of the constitution that created the nation.

The party also agreed to give the republics the power to question national laws before a strengthened high court, according to a draft constitution published in Pravda.

That appeared to be a partial concession to Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, which have passed republican constitutional amendments claiming the right to reject national laws. The Kremlin has said this violates the Soviet constitution.

The party said that to achieve a transformation of the Soviet federation, "the question has been raised of working out and signing a new union agreement instead of the treaty on the formation of the USSR of 1922."

That could be limited to the expanded powers for republics recommended by the party in yesterday's policy statement. But it also opens the possibility that radicals could push through a complete change in the structure of the nation.

Human rights activist Andrei Sakharov has suggested a loose confederation of sovereign states, and many nationalists in the Baltics and Georgia have called for secession from the Soviet Union.

"We don't want a new agreement," reacted Aigars Irgens, an editor at Altmada, the newspaper of the Latvian Popular Front. "We want complete independence."

The draft also calls for a new law banning "nationalist and chauvinist organizations." Many of the more than 100 nationalities in the Soviet Union have formed groups to agitate for changes ranging from restoration of their native languages to secession.

Such a law could be targeted against pro-secession groups such as the Party of National Independence in Georgia, Russian strikers protesting a new language law in Estonia, or the mass-membership Estonian Popular Front, which supported the language law.

"We have nationalist groups in Latvia, but the term is very broad," Irgens said. The effect of the party's proposed ban, he said, would depend on the definition of nationalism.

The proposal indicates the party still clearly favors a strong central government, despite its willingness to "transfer certain powers to the republics."

A key line responds to the three Baltic republics' "declarations of sovereignty" and their constitutional amendments claiming the right to reject national laws.

Communist Party policy states that the republics "can raise the question" of cancelling national laws that they believe exceed the authority of the central government. But it says the central government has the power to cancel unconstitutional laws passed in the republics.

The party suggests that such disputes be settled by the constitutional control commission, the nation's new quasi-supreme court.

On Wednesday, the national presidium declared the Estonian election law unconstitutional, saying its residency requirements for voters violated the rights of Russians and others who have recently moved to the tiny republic, which is materially better off than most of the country.

The draft includes the promise to "give to the republics all rights related to their status as sovereign socialist states," and says they are empowered to solve problems except in those areas they volunteer to the national government.

The Soviet constitution is contradictory on this point, promising sovereignty to the republics but simultaneously claiming that national law is superior. The proposed policy continues some of that vagueness.

Politburo member Alexander Yakovlev confirmed the existence of a secret Soviet-Nazi pact, saying in a published interview today that it should be "unequivocally condemned."

## Russians suspend strike in Estonia

MOSCOW, Aug. 18. (Reuters) — Russian workers in the Soviet republic of Estonia began returning to work today after suspending a strike against a new election law but they gave the authorities six weeks to meet some of their demands or face a bigger stoppage.

There was no indication the Estonian government was prepared to modify the law, which has been denounced by the Kremlin and has angered the Russian minority by depriving recent immigrants into the Baltic republic of the right to vote.

Mikhail Lysenko, a spokesman for the strike committee, said workers in the capital, Tallinn, and elsewhere in Estonia had begun reporting for work after a decision taken at a late-night meeting yesterday.

"Republican authorities did not actually give us guarantees that our demands would be met, but we nevertheless decided to believe them," Lysenko said.

"But the strike will resume on a far larger scale if they do not come to any compromise with us by Oct 1," he added.

Up to 50 factories and other enterprises staffed by members of the Russian minority were hit by strikes called after the republic's Parliament passed the new election law on Aug. 8.

The law could disenfranchise several thousand members of the republic's Russian minority by setting a two-year minimum residence requirement to vote in local elections and five years for those standing for office.

Estonian authorities see the law as an important part of a drive by the once-independent republic to win greater control of its own affairs and they plan to follow it with more controversial legislation creating Estonian citizenship.

The presidium of the Soviet Parliament, the Supreme Soviet, has denounced the law as being unconstitutional and given the Estonians until Oct 1 to revise it.

Russians, most of whom moved to Estonia after it was incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1940, make up around one third of the republic's 1.5 million population.

But activists from the Estonian Popular Front, a radical organization backing demands for more autonomy, say only a minority supported the strike and accuse the Kremlin of having encouraged the strikes.

Members of the Russian minority in the nearby republic of Lithuania have also threatened to strike over a law on Lithuanian citizenship which is expected to be passed by the republic's Parliament on Sept. 5.

In a sign of growing nationalist feeling among ethnic Balts in Estonia, Lithuania and in neighbouring Latvia, popular front organizations expect 600,000 people or more to join a human chain linking all three republics next Wednesday.



## Relatives identify

Two women try to identify the remains of a missing relative after gaining access to a mass grave near Kavarskas, a Lithuanian city early this month. Bodies of 'partisans' were buried there in 1946 after the Soviet Army enforced the integration of the Baltic republics into the Soviet Union. (Reuters wirephoto)



## World War II map

This map was signed by Adolf Hitler's Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop and Soviet dictator Stalin in August 1939. It carved up Europe giving most of Poland to Hitler while Stalin got the Baltic states and eastern Poland. Sept 1 marks the 50th anniversary of the Second World War. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Framework for UK-Argentina talks agreed

LONDON, Aug. 18. (Agencies) — A framework for talks about improving relations between Britain and Argentina was agreed today, the Foreign Office said.

Junior Foreign Office Minister Tim Sainsbury said substantive talks would now be held between the two countries.

Details of the agreement were to be released later in New York, where Britain's UN Ambassador Sir Crispin Tickell and Luelo Garcia Del Solar, director-general of Argentina's Foreign Ministry, have been meeting since Wednesday.

Britain and Argentina severed diplomatic and trade links after a 1982 war over a South Atlantic archipelago.

"The talks have gone well and hopefully in due course will lead to discussions which can enable us to have more normal relations with Argentina," Sainsbury said.

A framework has been agreed including an agenda and a date and that will be in the communiqué which will be issued later.

"We are looking towards holding substantive talks with Argentina as a result of these useful and successful discussions that have been taking place in New York," Sainsbury said.

Speaking on BBC radio, he said Britain's position on sovereignty regarding the Falkland Islands had "not changed one jot" but there was firm agreement on an agenda.

Secret talks were held in 1984 in Switzerland but quickly broke off without any agreement.

"The fact that the negotiations in New York are going longer than expected should not be interpreted as a sign that things are going poorly," one diplomat close to the new talks said.

"On the contrary, everything is fine and the outlook is optimistic."



# Congress may support deal

US bases in Philippines to 'stay'

MANILA, Aug 18, (AP) — US bases in the Philippines are so important to regional security that Congress will probably support any agreement to allow them to stay, a US lawmaker said yesterday.

Congressman Dante Fascell, a member of the US Democratic Party, made the statement during a news conference before concluding a four-day visit.

Fascell, leader of a six-member delegation and chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, said talks with President Corazon Aquino and other officials on the bases made him feel "more optimistic than I did when I came here."

The US and Philippine governments are expected to begin talks later this year on whether to extend the lease on the bases.

The lease expires in September 1991 and Aquino refuses to say whether she supports an extension. Any extension is subject to ratification by two-thirds of the 23-member Philippine Senate, where sentiment against the bases is strong.

Fascell said many nations in southeast Asia see the presence of the US-run Clark Air Base, Subic Bay Naval Base and the four other smaller military installations in the Philippines as essential to stability in the region.

"All the countries in the Pacific Basin recognise the importance of mutual security and the value of it in this area," Fascell said. "I don't anticipate that we would have any great difficulty in reaching an understanding."

US officials say the bases are essential to maintaining the balance of military power in the Far East and protecting sea lanes to Japan and the newly industrialised countries of East Africa.

But Filipino critics say the bases represent an infringement on national sovereignty and contribute to social problems such as drug addiction and prostitution.

Critics also say the United States regularly interferes in internal Philippine affairs so that it can keep the bases here. About 40,000 US soldiers, civilian employees and military dependents are stationed here.

Fascell's delegation is among three groups of US Congressmen to visit the Philippines this month.

Soviet Union's recent warning to the United States against setting up military bases in Singapore is "one of the reasons" why Malaysia is opposed to the island republic's offer to host such military facilities, Malaysian Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Ali Mustapa said yesterday.

"One of the reasons why we oppose the bases is because we do not want the region to become a place for the superpowers to use it," he told newsmen here.

"Singapore could turn into the 'Lebanon of Southeast Asia' should it allow the United States to set up some military facilities here, an opposition Muslim Party warned."

## Im under questioning

SEOUL, Aug 18, (Reuters) — Counter-espionage agents removed a radical South Korean student from her hospital bed early today and took her to a fortress-like building in Seoul for questioning about her illegal visit to the North, state radio said.

The radio said the agency for National Security Planning (NSP) came before dawn to remove 21-year-old Im Su-Kyung, who crossed the north-south border on Tuesday accompanied by a Roman Catholic priest, Moon Kyn-Hyon. She was driven to an NSP centre on a wooded mountain in central Seoul.

Im, who staged a five-day protest hunger strike while in North Korea, had spent nearly three days at a Seoul University Hospital while doctors determined whether she was fit to withstand intensive interrogation by the NSP.

Doctors said she seemed tired and nervous, but healthy.

Im, a French language student, desired a Seoul government ban to attend a World Youth Festival in Pyongyang in July. She faces serious charges under the country's national security law, which bans unauthorised contact with the North.

Several prominent South Koreans, including dissident pastor Moon Ik-Hwan and opposition member of parliament Suh Kyung-Won, were formally charged earlier this year for making illegal trips to Pyongyang.

State radio said the NSP planned to bring formal charges against Im tomorrow. It said she was responding to questions



Back home

More than 120 Vietnamese who had fled their homeland returned Thursday in the largest voluntary repatriation so far of refugees from the testing camps in Hong Kong.

Waving goodbye to their families and clutching bags packed with clothes and radios, the refugees boarded a Boeing 737 jetliner at Hong Kong's airport and took off for Hanoi.

From there, the 46 men, 40 women, 17 boys and 18 girls were to be taken to their hometowns and monitored by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

Originally, 124 people had volunteered to return, but three of them were forced to stay in Hong Kong for medical reasons, Van Leeuwen said.

He said 190 more people were awaiting a chance to return to Vietnam and between 800 and 700 more refugees already had applied to go back.

A Vietnamese boy waving good-bye before the flight. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Seoul election, 'a litmus test'

SEOUL, Aug 18, (AP) — Voters cast ballots today for a national assembly seat in a Seoul race seen as an indicator of public support for President Roh Tae-Woo's governing party.

Ballot boxes were taken to a high school auditorium for counting after voting ended in Yongsongpo 8 district in southern Seoul. No serious incidents were reported.

Election officials said the voter turnout was tentatively estimated at 69.8 per cent, two percentage points higher than the rate recorded in the district in the April 1988 general elections.

The outcome of the election was expected to be known early tomorrow, they said.

Six candidates, including one sponsored by opposition groups, entered the campaign 18 days ago. Political analysts said the race was too close to call.

An election committee has said more than 100 election officials were deployed at polls to guard against any election fraud or violence.

Roh sent a letter to district party members urging support for the ruling party candidate and calling the race "a litmus test which would determine the course the nation would take."

about funding for her trip and her links to dissident groups in the South.

The Seoul government repeatedly warned it would arrest Im as soon as she came back from Pyongyang, where she acquired star status for being the only South Korean to risk arrest by attending the youth festival.

Im and Moon, who was sent to the North to accompany her home, surrendered to authorities as soon as they crossed the demarcation line at the border village of Panmunjom. Moon was immediately taken into police custody.

The two defied repeated warnings from Seoul and the US-led United Nations Command (UNC) guarding the area around Panmunjom that the crossing was a violation of the 1953 armistice agreement that ended the three-year Korean war.

A UNC public relations officer said it was possible a

protest letter would be sent directly to Northern President Kim Il-Sung over the breach.

The United Nations Command said today a border crossing by two South Korean dissidents returning from North Korea put in question the North's willingness to adhere to an armistice agreement that has kept peace on the Korean peninsula since 1953.

A UNC spokesman said the statement was intended to clarify the command's position on the case. He did not say what specific action the command would take against North Korea in connection with the incident.

The US-led UNC charged that North Korea endangered the implementation of the 1953 Korean armistice agreement by allowing two South Korean dissidents to cross the border without proper authorisation.

TBS received 162 applications from employees,

narrowing the field through physical examinations. Candidates were chosen based on familiarity with a TV camera, on-air presence and potential for giving speeches and writing a book after the experience, Nakanishi said.

The TBS project will be in direct competition with an official government plan to put a Japanese in space aboard a US space shuttle. Three Japanese astronauts are being trained by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for their mission, scheduled for mid-1991.

Not that many children are interested in outer space, so we hope to spark the kind of boom in space projects that the Apollo missions did in the United States," Nakanishi said.

The seven Tokyo Broadcasting System staffers will go to the Soviet Union for various tests this year, with two finalists undergoing 18 months' training at Gorkovskoye, the Soviet Space Agency, TBS spokesman Toshio Nakanishi said.

The seven range in age from two 23-year-old assistant directors to the network's 42-year-old

## Japan selects 7 to be first scribe in space

TOKYO, Aug 18, (AP) — A Japanese television station has selected seven of its employees as candidates to become the first Japanese in space, flying aboard a Soviet space mission, a station spokesman said yesterday.

The seven Tokyo Broadcasting System staffers will go to the Soviet Union for various tests this year, with two finalists undergoing 18 months' training at Gorkovskoye, the Soviet Space Agency, TBS spokesman Toshio Nakanishi said.

The seven range in age from two 23-year-old assistant directors to the network's 42-year-old

Moscow bureau chief and 47-year-old deputy foreign editor, Nakanishi said.

The successful candidate is to join a Soviet mission to the space station Mir by the end of 1991, broadcasting live by television once a day and by radio twice a day during a six-day stay in the space station.

"Not that many children are interested in outer space, so we hope to spark the kind of boom in space projects that the Apollo missions did in the United States," Nakanishi said.

TBS received 162 applications from employees,

## Philippines vows no cover-up in probe

MANILA, Aug 18, (Reuters) — The Philippine Army pledged yesterday there would be no cover-up in its investigation of a military prison massacre in which 16 mutinous inmates and five civilian hostages were killed.

As Australian Ambassador Mack Williams met the sealed casket with the body of one victim — 36-year-old missionary Jacqueline Hamill — Armed Forces chief General Renato de Villa said "I have directed... a thorough investigation."

He said he wanted results in 10 days and promised full co-operation with a separate congressional inquiry, "if only to dispel any fears of cover-up as insinuated by

some quarters."

Hamill was killed on Tuesday with four other hostages and 16 prisoners in gunbattles when the convicts tried to escape, using their captives as shields.

Her body was flown to Manila with a military escort from the southern city Davao and was leaving the same night for Sydney.

Hamill was among 15 hostages seized when she and other members of the "Joyful Assembly of God" visited the prison on Sunday to hold a religious service for the inmates.

Some of the 10 hostages who survived said she and other women in the group

were raped by the prisoners the night before they were killed.

De Villa said he had ordered Brigadier-General Ramon Montano, commander of the paramilitary Philippine Constabulary, to set up a special panel of senior officers to conduct the inquiry. An initial report has been submitted to President Corazon Aquino, he said.

The Foreign Ministry said Aquino was sending a message of condolences to Hamill's family in Tasmania and to the Australian government, which had asked for a full account of the incident.

"We regret she had to lose her life that way," Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus

said. "She was pursuing a vocation which required her to expose her life in extraordinary ways. Under those conditions, of course, sometimes it is not possible to give full protection... we regret that that happened."

Williams said the incident would not affect relations between Australia and the Philippines.

House of Representatives Speaker Ramon Mitra and Senator Victor Ziga, member of the Senate Defence Committee which is to conduct a separate inquiry, said they would like to find out who shot Hamill and the other hostages.

## Suspect admits fourth murder Kaifu urges probe

TOKYO, Aug 18, (AP) — Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu today urged a full investigation into a series of child murders that has shocked Japan, and news reports said a suspect has now confessed to a fourth killing.

Tsutomu Miyazaki, a 26-year-old Tokyo print shop worker, has admitted under questioning to killing Masami Yoshizawa, said the Japan Broadcasting Corp. (NHK) and Asahi Shimbun newspaper, quoting unnamed police officials.

Miyazaki confessed he had kidnapped and murdered the 7-year-old girl, missing since last October from her home north of Tokyo, and "buried her in

the mountains," Asahi Shimbun reported.

Police declined to comment on the reports.

Miyazaki is under arrest for kidnapping and killing 5-year-old Ayako Nomoto. On Sunday, two days after his arrest, he also confessed to the kidnap and killing of two 4-year-old girls, Mari Konno and Erika Namba, police said.

The cases also have drawn attention to the many animated films available in Japan that show violence and scenes of undressed girls and comic books involving crime. The suspect, Tsutomu Miyazaki, said he collected them.

## Kaifu urges political reforms

TOKYO, Aug 18, (Reuters) — In one of his first moves towards promised political reform, Japan Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu asked his cabinet today to quit the ruling party factions blamed for wickling too much behind-the-scenes power.

Political analysts said the move was unlikely to satisfy opposition demands for meaningful reform of Japan's scandal-plagued politics.

"This practice (of leaving factions) does not mean anything unless the factions are disbanded," said Soichiro Tahara, an influential political commentator.

A spokesman for the prime minister's office quoted Kaifu as saying: "Cabinet members must leave their own factions during their term of office and watch their own words so as not to be misunderstood as endorsing faction-level politics."

The Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) factions, whose bosses wield the real power behind those in office, have been criticised for engaging in money and power politics out of the public eye.

The faction bosses, who garner political funds and dominate smaller factions when it comes to policy and personnel decisions, are instrumental in choosing the party's leader. That post to turn carries with it the premiership, by virtue of the LDP majority in parliament's lower house.

Kaifu said in an eight-point memorandum his administration must aim for fair government because it was formed after the LDP's worst election defeat, the spokesman said.

In voting on July 23, the party lost its majority in the upper house of parliament for the first time since its formation in 1955.

Public opinion polls showed voters were unhappy with the Recruit influence-peddling scandal, an unpopular sales tax, and government policies to open farm trade to imports.

Japan's last two prime ministers, Noboru Takeshita and Sosuke Uno, were forced to resign after short terms in office.

"We must faithfully answer each of the questions raised in the last elections and regain trust in politics and government," Kaifu said.

"No members may make outside criticism of decisions made within the cabinet."

Members of Uno's cabinet also left their factions during their tenure in office — but all rejoined after he quit.

The main opposition Japan Socialist Party has not so far commented on today's announcement.

Kaifu will meet President George Bush on Sept 1 in Washington, Chief Cabinet Secretary Tokyo Yamashita said yesterday.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and several members of parliament will accompany Kaifu to Washington, Yamashita, the top government spokesman, said.



Defector

A former North Korean soldier who defected to the South two weeks ago gives a press conference at the Defence Ministry in Seoul on Thursday. Chung Young-Chul 19, is one of hundreds of North Koreans who have defected to the South, since the end of the Korean war in 1953. (Reuters wirephoto)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Mother judge and jury:** The mother of a 12-year-old primary school girl was arrested yesterday for forcing her daughter to take fatal poison for stealing money from her neighbour, news reports said.

Police in the southern city of Kwangju charged Yang In-Ja, 41, with murder, Yonhap, the South Korean news agency, said.

Yang was accused of killing her daughter Monday by forcing her to take a bowl of poison-laced water, a traditional way of death to atone for shameful acts. (AP)

**Asian bank urges:** The President of Asian Development Bank urged the Philippines yesterday to curb population growth it said was eroding the country's economic gains.

Masao Fujioaka said in a speech to a Manila business group the rapidly rising birth rate worsened poverty, restricted per capita income growth and exhausted the land.

Roman Catholic church leaders and government officials in Asia's only predominantly Christian country resist proposals by international agencies to curb population growth, estimated at 2.7 per cent a year on a population around 60 million. (Reuters)

**Highway heist:** Police were searching today for four men wearing T-shirts and jeans who stopped a car on a main highway and stole the equivalent of \$1 million.

Police said the four, all in their 20s or 30s, stopped their vehicle in front of a car carrying two men transporting teachers' salaries near Kongju in central South Korea.

Kim Yong-Man, 33, told police three of the robbers forced him and his companion to get out of the car. Police said Kim told them that three of the men jumped in the car carrying the cash and drove off, followed by the fourth robber in another car. (AP)

**Soviet to allow:** The Soviet Union will allow thousands of Koreans living in the Soviet far eastern district of Sakhalin to visit their homeland, governing party sources said yesterday.

One source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Rep. Kim Hyon-Wook of the governing Democratic Justice Party is in the Soviet Union discussing procedures for Koreans to return to their homeland for the first time since World War II ended in 1945.

Thousands of Koreans were brought to Sakhalin by Japan as forced labourers in the final years of the war. They since have been stranded there because of the lack of diplomatic relations between Seoul and Moscow. (AP)

**Storm rips:** A 20-minute storm ripped through a coastal Chinese city, killing two people, leaving another missing, injuring hundreds and destroying 3,550 homes, an official report said yesterday.

Meanwhile, millions of hectares (acres) of farmland in North China have been hit by drought following weeks of severe flooding throughout China that claimed about 1,800 lives.

The China Daily said the storm, with winds raging at 144 kilometres (89 miles) an hour, hit Zhenjiang, in Jiangsu province, Monday afternoon, cutting the city's electrical supply, sinking 10 boats and uprooting 60,000 trees. (AP)

**Sabotage ruled out:** Chinese aviation authorities have ruled out sabotage in a passenger plane crash near Shanghai that killed 34 people, the official Xinhua News Agency said yesterday.

An unidentified official of the civil aviation administration of China said a two-day investigation found there was no fire or explosion when the Soviet-designed Antonov-24 crashed during takeoff Tuesday afternoon, killing 26 Chinese and two Japanese passengers, along with six crew members.

## China denies minister held

Power struggle continues

BEIJING, Aug 18, (Agencies) — The Defence Ministry today denied a report that China's defence minister was detained in a military power struggle, but the ministry's official newspaper acknowledged political conflict within the army and urged tighter political discipline.

Western diplomats said the reports reflected continuing tension after military commanders split over the crackdown on the democracy movement in June and the use of lethal force against the demonstrators and the citizens of Beijing.

The Liberation Army Daily, the People's Liberation Army newspaper, said in a commentary that fighting "bourgeois liberalisation," a catchphrase for Western political ideas, should be a "major topic for political and thought work in the army."

An official of the Ministry of National Defence, reached by telephone, characterised as "a rumour" a Western news agency report yesterday from Hong Kong saying that Defence Minister Qin Jiwei had been detained by troops loyal to President Yang Shangkun.

The report said the incident grew from a dispute between the two over who would replace ousted Communist party chief Zhao Ziyang as first vice-chairman of the party's central military commission.

The post places its holder second in line behind senior leader Deng Xiaoping, the commission chairman, and positioned best for control of the military after Deng relinquishes his chairmanship or dies.

"The report is not true," the ministry official said.

Qin and some senior military commanders are believed to have opposed the decision to open fire on unarmed demonstrators in Beijing, where martial law was declared May 20.

The army swept into the city June 3, killing hundreds and possibly thousands of people in the assault and the citywide uprising that followed.

Yang was ranked third behind Zhao on the military commission but wields control over the army through family and personal connections.

Western diplomats, including a military attaché who has recently been in contact with Chinese military officials, said continuing tension exists in the PLA and that some commanders may be purged despite a recent public effort to display unity.

In other developments, a Chinese government spokesman confirmed in an interview published yesterday that Wang Dan, a leader of the democracy movement and one of the country's most wanted fugitives, had been arrested.

State council spokesman Yuan Mu said Wang was arrested July 2 after meeting with a Taiwanese reporter, who was detained and later expelled from China.

A Shanghai newspaper reported yesterday authorities arrested or were investigating 99 people accused of involvement in illegal workers' groups that plotted to establish a "people's party" and kidnap officials. The groups planned to overthrow the government, the Shanghai Liberation Daily said.

China has suspended participation in American-sponsored Fulbright Exchange Programme for scholars, US education officials announced Wednesday.

## Crackdown on opposition 208 held in Burma

RANGOON, Aug 18, (AP) — Burma's military rulers said today they have arrested 208 people since a crackdown on opposition groups began in July, but Western diplomats say the figure could be much higher.

Thousands of troops were deployed July 19 in Rangoon to block a planned opposition rally. The next day authorities placed two main opposition figures, Aung San Suu Kyi and Tin Oo, under house arrest.

Diplomats say the National League for Democracy, which the two head, was hardest hit by the crackdown. The National



Massacre story

Dissident Chinese student Li Lu addresses a United Nations panel. Li says thousands were killed and tens of thousands wounded in the army suppression of the student democracy movement in Beijing in June. (Reuters wirephoto)

Li Lu, 23, a Chinese student leader, clarifying his statement a day before, said yesterday he has reliable information that up to 120,000 people were arrested since the military crackdown in China and that "some" of them were executed, often secretly.

Li Lu, who is on the Beijing government's list of most wanted criminals for his role in the demonstrations, told a UN human rights panel Wednesday that since the crackdown "many more are arrested and executed. These may number as many as 120,000."

China came under increasing criticism at UN human rights body on Thursday for violent suppression of students in Beijing and of Tibetans in Lhasa.

Lwu Xiaoyang, the son of a former foreign minister has been arrested for his part in an international radio broadcast that reported hundreds of people had been killed in and around Tiananmen Square on June 3-4, Chinese sources said yesterday.

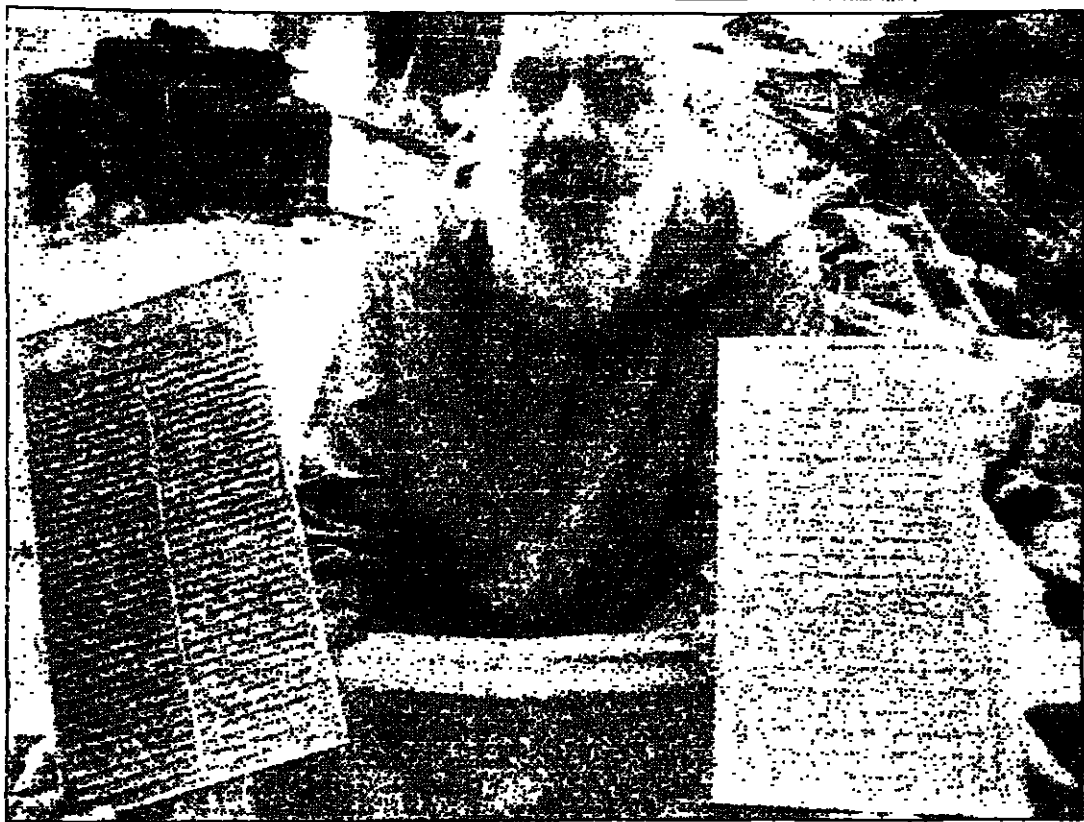
Beijing citizens reacted with disbelief today after seeing a pop star who inspired rebellious students in Tiananmen Square suddenly appear on national television and toe the government line.

Where singer Hou Dejian had hidden over the past 10 weeks and the circumstances of his rehabilitation by the communist authorities remained a mystery.

China will not try to seize dissident Fang Lizhi and his wife from their US embassy refuge, the government said yesterday in a statement that again criticised the United States for harbouring them.

China has suspended participation in American-sponsored Fulbright Exchange Programme for scholars, US education officials announced Wednesday.





Mohammed Mezgueldi holds his holy tablets in front of the remains of the mosque of Charvieu-Chavagnieux, southeastern France. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Mosque destroyed

### French Muslims outraged

GRENOBLE, France, Aug. 18. (Agencies): Outraged Muslims were suspected to have set fires at a town hall and a gymnasium yesterday in retaliation for the demolition of a mosque in a disused factory, police said.

Workers from the Deschanvo Demolition Company set off a storm in Charvieu-Chavagnieux, a town of some 8,000 people in the eastern region of Isere, when they bulldozed the makeshift Muslim prayer centre in a wing of the factory at dawn Wednesday. One Muslim was injured during the incident.

Some reports said about five Muslims were asleep in the mosque when the bulldozer moved in. Another report said the imam of the mosque, Mohammed Mezgueldi, was leading a dozen faithful in morning prayers at the time.

The demolition team said they destroyed the mosque accidentally and that they had intended to demolish another, condemned wing of the plant.

But Muslim leaders charged this was the latest in a series of racially motivated incidents. The conservative mayor of the town, Gerard Dezempte recently refused permission for a new mosque to be built in the area, saying it would attract more immigrants. In 1988, 22 percent of the population of the Charvieu were foreign immigrants.

As many as 25 percent of the population voted for right-wing extremist Jean-Marie Le Pen's anti-immigration National Front in recent elections.

Angry Muslims Wednesday afternoon set fire to the bulldozer that destroyed the prayer centre.

Other mysterious fires started in the early hours yesterday, gutting the town hall and gymnasium. Police said they suspected Muslim militants were responsible for the arson attacks.

"This is a declaration of war. Our children can no longer go to Quranic school and are being encouraged to commit violence," a spokesman for the Islamic Union in Lyon said.

## Exodus train barred

ANKARA, Aug. 18. (AP): Turkey has barred indefinitely the entry of a Bulgarian train which has carried an average of 600 ethnic Turks a day into the country for the past three months.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Murat Sungar said yesterday the decision was taken to protest the "disorderly and inhuman" transfer of the ethnic Turks by the Bulgarian government.

Sungar said the train has been overcrowded and the immigrants' belongings were sent three days later.

He said Turkey could review its decision if the Bulgarian government agreed to make the transfer in a more orderly and humane way.

"The decision does not mean that Turkey closes its border with Bulgaria," Sungar said.

The exodus continued yesterday with more immigrants crossing the border by private cars. The number of immigrants who have arrived in Turkey so far is believed to exceed 290,000.

In May, Bulgaria started reporting ethnic Turks after subjecting them to a forced assimilation campaign that included changing their Turkish names to Slavic ones and banning Islamic rites and use of the Turkish language.

The deportation grew an exodus as the ethnic Turks were permitted to get passports and leave the country.

Bulgaria refuses Turkey's call to start talks on an immigration agreement that would protect the ethnic Turks' legal rights, including social security benefits and compensation for property left behind, the restoration of minority rights to those who remain in Bulgaria.

Greece has lodged a series of protests to the United Nations and its European Economic Community partners over the self-styled Turkish-Cypriot state's decision to grant citizenship to two Bulgarian Muslim refugee families, the Greek government spokesman announced yesterday.

## Rebels still getting arms

### Kabul blames US

KABUL, Aug. 18. (Agencies): Afghanistan accused the United States yesterday of supplying Muslim commandos with new rockets that exploded in mid-air and shower down warheads that detonate on the ground.

"It is a long-range, US-type missile and it's very strong and it can destroy very vast areas," Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said.

"You can see the US markings," the United States has said it is providing the rebels with new weapons to counter what it says are shipments of new Soviet weapons to Afghanistan. Published reports say these include US-designed cluster bombs and Spanish-made 120mm mortars that can crater airport runways.

The rebels, who call themselves mujahideen, are trying to topple the Soviet-backed Kabul government with support mainly from the United States, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

Amani also said the rebels fired 53 missiles, including the new US rockets, at Kabul on Tuesday night and early on Wednesday.

One of the new rockets killed five civilians and injured 23 others overnight in the former Soviet-occupied Mirkorayan housing complex near Kabul airport, now home to many government workers.

He said casualties were low because most people were asleep. "But I can assure you that if they continue firing these new rockets the people will suffer casualties and their hatred

against the opponent groups and the United States of America will increase," Amani said.

Amani said the new rockets exploded at some point in mid-air, sending 30 smaller explosives to the ground where they explode.

"Even its pieces have exploded sometimes after one hour (on the ground) without any touch," he said.

The Afghan government said 354 rockets hit Kabul in the last four weeks, killing 193 civilians and injuring more than 500 others.

The leader of an Iranian-backed Afghan party ruled out yesterday the possibility of holding elections in mujahideen-held territory in Afghanistan, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

A French aid worker was killed in Afghanistan when government troops ambushed the rebel group he was travelling with, a spokesman for the French embassy to Pakistan said today.

He said Vincent Gurnigun was working for Handicap International, an organisation making artificial limbs.

A total of 13,833 Soviet soldiers died in the Afghan war, the Communist Party daily Pravda said yesterday in the most detailed breakdown yet of Soviet casualties.

The Kremlin confirmed an amnesty for all Soviet soldiers who deserted in Afghanistan or left to live in other countries after being captured in the war.

Yariv Bar-Yosef, 25, shot himself in the head with his Uzi sub-machine-gun in the early morning hours yesterday. He left behind a suicide note explaining his motives.

Bar-Yosef was among soldiers being investigated by military police in connection with the beating death of an Arab known as the "Givati affair."

In the case, four soldiers of the elite Givati Brigade serving in the Gaza Strip's Jabalya refugee camp were charged with killing Hani El Shami, 42, by brutally beating him on Aug. 22, 1988.

In northern Israel, meanwhile, several Katyusha rockets were fired into the Galilee, apparently from Lebanon, but caused no damage or injuries, the army said. Sources in the area said army guns returned fire into Lebanon.

Yesterday, an Israeli Army officer was indicted on 19 counts of accepting bribes from reserve soldiers who wanted to avoid difficult army service, the army said.

The sentence will be pronounced at a later stage, a military spokesman said.

The spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, would not say if the officer was bribed by reservists who wanted to escape service in the occupied West Bank or Gaza Strip.

# Israeli Army enforces new entrance policy

## Palestinian call for boycott ignored

EREZ CHECKPOINT, Gaza Strip, Aug. 18. (Agencies): Both Israelis and Palestinians claimed victory today as the army imposed tough restrictions on Arabs travelling from the occupied Gaza Strip to Israel. Israeli authorities said about 6,000 people crossed into Israel, ignoring a call by underground Palestinian leaders to boycott work in Israel to protest against new plastic identification cards men must have to leave the strip.

But Palestinians estimated a maximum of 1,000 people crossed. They said there were far fewer cars than normal entering Israel and that most carried no passengers.

Saber Abu Sabaan, a 40-year-old father of 10 children, said he had been working in Israel for years but refused to get the new card, only to see it taken away by uprising activists.

"I was trying to work, but feeding my kids does not mean I love Israel," he said.

Israeli officials say the card system is intended to prevent those with criminal or security records from entering Israel following a series of attacks on Jews by Arabs.

Palestinians argue the system is a further attempt by Israel to quell the revolt against occupation by putting an economic squeeze on Gaza, where poverty is widespread and few jobs are available.

Army Radio depicted the flow of workers out of the strip, home to 650,000 people, as a defeat for the 20-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule in Gaza and the occupied West Bank.

Both sides agreed activists of the uprising had tried to stop workers from leaving.

The Israeli Army said troops arrested three masked Gaza youths suspected of trying to block Arab workers from travelling to jobs in Israel.

Leaders of the revolt in Gaza had called for an indefinite boycott of work in Israel. West Bankers employed in Israel were told to stop work for one week in solidarity but many appeared to ignore the call.

Police said, meanwhile, that two ultra-orthodox Jews, one an American and the other a Swiss, were arrested at Ben Gurion airport while trying to bring in \$1.25 million, and Israeli news reports said police suspected the money was to finance the Palestinian uprising.

Yaacov Shoval, a police spokesman, said the two were arrested on suspicion of bringing in the money for illegal purposes, but he would not say whether the case was linked to the uprising.

In Jerusalem, a parked car was set ablaze in the latest of a series of arson attacks that have become a new tactic of the uprising. Police said the auto was the ninth vehicle set afire in the city this week. No one was injured in any of the incidents.

Meanwhile, an Israeli reservist distressed over an army investigation of his role in the beating death of a Gaza Arab shot himself to death with a burst of automatic machine-gun fire, Israeli press reports said today.

Yariv Bar-Yosef, 25, shot himself in the head with his Uzi sub-machine-gun in the early morning hours yesterday. He left behind a suicide note explaining his motives.

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According to official statistics, rug exports earned Iran at least \$260 million last year, or more than one-third of its non-oil exports. Iranian newspapers estimated another \$200 million worth were smuggled abroad.

Silk rugs, which cost five times as much as wool ones, account for about 15 per cent of carpets legally sold abroad.

Dubai merchants say a trickle of legal exports provides the

The real test comes on Sunday, the first day of the new card system when traffic of up to 25,000 people would be normal. Friday is the Muslim sabbath, while Saturday is the Jewish sabbath.

"What you were able to see this morning was the normal flow to work despite the recent call to the population to strike and to refrain from leaving for Israel," Brigadier General Zvi Poleg, army commander of the Gaza Strip, told Israel Radio.

Gaza workers asked about the cards today said they felt caught between Israeli authorities and the uprising's popular committees, whose enforcers have been seizing the cards to disrupt the system.

## US defreezes aid to Egypt

CAIRO, Aug. 18. (Reuters): The United States, satisfied with Egypt's steps to reform its crippled economy, yesterday agreed to release millions of dollars in aid frozen for two years.

Washington had refused to give Egypt an annual \$115 million in cash aid to push President Hosni Mubarak into taking more far-reaching measures at home.

Egypt, reeling under an estimated \$50 billion foreign debt, appears to be moving quickly towards taking steps sought by Western creditors and the International Monetary Fund.

"This agreement falls in the context of Egypt's determined move towards reform of its economy, a reform that will revive Egypt economic prospects,

give its citizens hope for the future ...," Frank Wisner, US ambassador to Egypt, told reporters.

"I know no better way than to indicate my government's strong support for Egypt's reform efforts," said Wisner, who signed the accord with minister of state for international co-operation Morris Marmarallah.

He said President George Bush and Mubarak in April had discussed steps Egypt should take for the release of the money.

The IMF wants rapid action to end state subsidies and move more quickly away from a sluggish Soviet-style economy towards a free-market private sector-friendly system.

## PLO proposals rejected: Abu Iyad

## 'Talks with US was bad'

TUNIS, Aug. 18. (Reuters): The PLO said today the United States had rejected a proposal that diaspora Palestinians meet the Israeli government and ignored all its other ideas on elections in the occupied territories.

Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), one of PLO leader Yasser Arafat's closest colleagues, said that in talks with PLO in Tunis last Monday: "They said only that we must persuade Palestinians inside (the occupied territories) to negotiate with Israel. Not a word about the outside. We think that's a step backwards."

"The last round was bad because they went back to speaking about elections as the only possible solution and ignoring all our ideas ... They are determined to persuade us to abandon our position and abandon four million Palestinians outside on the pretext that this is only a beginning," he told Reuters.

At the previous round of the PLO-US dialogue on June 8 the PLO suggested one or two Palestinians living outside the West Bank and Gaza Strip meet the Israelis to talk about Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's plan for elections.

The organisation named two Palestinians who are US citizens Edward Said and Ibrahim Abu Lughud—as possible members of a mixed delegation with Palestinians from inside.

Asked if Washington specifically rejected this, Abu Iyad said: "Yes, that's true."

The PLO says it represents Palestinians throughout the diaspora while Israel, afraid of a Palestinian return, tries to exclude the exiles from any settlement.

Abu Iyad, one of the founding members of Arafat's Fatah movement, said the PLO would not break off the dialogue but could live without it if Washington broke it off.

"We lived without the dialogue and we can do so again, no problem. What's the use of dialogue if it doesn't lead to any result? It only covers America's bias towards Israel," he said.

He dismissed Egyptian press reports that Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin had written a letter to Arafat.

"The Palestinian people are beginning to doubt the sincerity of the path we have chosen and we will face difficulties inside the Palestinian circle," Abu Iyad was quoted yesterday as telling the Saudi Arabian Al Madina newspaper.

Abu Iyad, said the opposition among the Palestinians to the PLO's peace policy was growing because of "Israel's stubborn stand and the American indifference."

Arafat launched his peace initiative in December based on the idea of a Palestinian state in the occupied territories alongside Israel.

He has rejected an Israeli plan to hold elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip of Palestinian representatives to negotiate some form of limited self-rule.

Whether Arafat will get a visa to address the United Nations remains in doubt, US officials told Washington's leading Jewish newspaper.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Turk charged

ANKARA, Aug. 18. (Reuters): A Turkish teacher was charged yesterday for telling students that a man's handshake with a woman was a first step to adultery. Anatolian news agency said.

The state security court prosecutor asked for Ahmed Gunay to be sent to prison for five years under laws prohibiting religious fundamentalism. Gunay defended himself by saying he was only answering students' questions.

### Rebels to meet

ADDIS ABABA, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Sudanese rebels, demanding sweeping political changes by the Khartoum government as conditions for peace talks, said today they would meet envoys from Sudan's ruling military junta.

An 11-year delegation from Sudan's revolutionary council which seized power on June 30 was expected to arrive in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa later today for talks likely to open tomorrow.

### Activists defect

RABAT, Aug. 18. (Reuters): A leading propagandist and two guerrilla fighters have defected from the Polisario Front, Moroccan newspaper reported today.

"Opinion said the movement's chief propagandist in Algeria, Ma Al Azzam, and guerrilla fighter Boussif had also defected to Morocco.

Breakthrough

GENEVA, Aug. 18. (KUNA): The Egyptian Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, Dr Nabil Elaraby, said yesterday that a "break-through" towards a comprehensive convention for prohibition of chemical weapons was "still a long way ahead."

Addressing the conference on disarmament, the ambassador said through the Paris Conference had highlighted the need for speedy progress in this regard, completion of the draft would take longer time. The problem was not with drafting the convention, but with the political will.

Presenting the view of his delegation, Elaraby said the chemical weapons convention should, from the moment of its entry into force, prevail over any other existing international instrument covering the same subject.

Permission granted

GENEVA, Aug. 18. (KUNA): The Swiss government has decided to lift the restriction against the ex-prime minister of Tunisia, Mohammed Mzali, from residing in Switzerland, a Swiss daily reported yesterday.

According to the newspaper La Suisse, the permission had now been granted due to the personal interest into the state by President Jean-Paul Delella, who reportedly never retracted in his friendship with the ex-premier.

The decision not to allow Mohammed Mzali to stay in Switzerland had been taken by the former federal Minister for Justice, Mrs Kopp.

Fasting prisoners

RABAT, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Two Moroccan human rights groups said today four political prisoners were in critical condition on the 63rd day of a hunger strike.

Three of the four, who are demanding political prisoner status, were jailed for up to eight years in 1984 for their part in riots in various parts of the country. The fourth is a student jailed for two years for disturbing the peace.

In a joint statement the Moroccan League and Association of human rights appealed to the government to meet the prisoners' demands "to avoid an imminent disaster."

Ethiopia, rebels to hold talks

ATLANTA, Georgia, Aug. 18. (AP): Former President Jimmy Carter announced yesterday that the government of Ethiopia and an opposing rebel group will hold peace negotiations next month at his policy centre in Atlanta.

Representatives of the government and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front will begin their talks Sept 7 at the Carter Centre of Emory University, Carter said. He did not identify the negotiators, but called them "top-level representatives."

The talks are to be preliminary and will lay the groundwork for further negotiations, he said.

Carter visited Ethiopia during a tour of Africa last month and met with Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam, who had announced June 5 that his government was ready to negotiate with the Eritreans and another rebel group in the presence of an international observer.

Carter said at the time that he would act as an official mediator if both sides asked him to.

Thursday's announcement said both sides have agreed to three things: that the talks will begin with a public announcement, that they will be held in the presence of a third party and that there will be no preconditions set by either party.

Ethiopia may seek a ceasefire in its war with Eritrean secessionists during the talks, Ethiopian Foreign Minister Berhanu Bayih said today.

## 55 fasting Turkish inmates remain hospitalised

AYDIN, Turkey, Aug. 18. (AP): Fifty-five leftist inmates remained hospitalised yesterday on the 50th day of a hunger strike, but they were refusing medical treatment, an official said.

Governor Recep Yazicioglu told the Associated Press that 153 inmates were still on a hunger strike while 104 others gave up the action during the week.

The inmates began the fast at Eskisehir prison June 28 to protest restrictions imposed after prison authorities discovered two

incomplete escape tunnels. They were transferred to the western city of Aydin on Aug. 2 so the damage caused by the tunnels could be repaired.

Two of the prisoners died on the day of the transfer. Officials said the cause was dehydration, but newspapers and other inmates have contended the men were beaten to death.

Yazicioglu said three inmates were sent to a hospital at the Aegean coastal city of Izmir on Tuesday in critical condition. One of them was still refusing treatment, he added.

Yazicioglu added that the inmates who gave up fasting met with their families at the prison yesterday for the first time since the beginning of the hunger strike.

Justice Minister Oltan Sungurlu said a commission was changing the disciplinary regulations in prisons in accordance with the demands of the prisoners.

Sungurlu said the inmates would no longer be chained or locked in dark cells as a punishment under the new regulations.



# Rafsanjani wants US concessions

## Khomeini's son issues warning

NICOSIA, Aug 18. (Agencies): Iran's new leader Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has begun his presidency insisting on American concessions to end a decade of hostility before hostages in Lebanon are set free.

Rafsanjani, sworn in yesterday, was under pressure to take a radical line. Statements from Iran indicated that the radicals and those regarded as pragmatists were a long way from settling their differences.

"I have said many times that if the United States expects us to help in the Lebanese issue, it should show in practice that it has stopped its hostile stand against us," Rafsanjani told Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who is apparently mediating in the hostage crisis.

"(Then) we will incline to solve the issue," Rafsanjani said only hours after being sworn in as Iran's fourth president.

Khan said he had been asked to seek Iran's co-operation in freeing the hostages. IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, reported.

Pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim groups are believed to hold most of the 16 Westerners missing in Lebanon. The Iranian backed Hezbollah is considered the umbrella for hostage-holding factions.

Despite his avowed willingness to seek the captives' release, Rafsanjani sharply criticised the United States for linking the hostage issue with that of its bilateral relations with Iran.

He said Washington had shown its hostility toward Iran by freezing billions of dollars in Iranian assets and by supporting Iraq in the eight-year Gulf war.

"As soon as the Lebanon issue is mentioned, America starts talking about relations with Iran... can you imagine that a revolutionary Muslim can talk to someone who has behaved towards him in this manner both before and after the revolution?" Rafsanjani said.

He accused the United States of using a "domineering tone" in its statements on Iran and also signalled that it would be some time before there could be any accommodation on the hostages issue.

"If the Americans really do have goodwill, it must take a very long time before this goodwill can be proven in practice," he said.

Earlier yesterday, Tehran Radio reported remarks by the son of the late Ayatollah Khomeini rejecting any possible relations between Washington and Tehran.

Ahmad Khomeini, who currently holds no official position but is believed to belong to the rival hardline camp, was quoted as saying Iranian authorities would "punch America in the face, and they will kick America out of the Middle East."

Meanwhile, Israel said today captured Hezbollah leader Sheikh Abdel Karim Obeid had told interrogators two missing Israeli soldiers were dead but it did not believe him.

In the first official confirmation of foreign press reports, Defence Ministry spokesman Eitan Haber told Reuters that Obeid had said his pro-Iranian Hezbollah movement killed the soldiers, but Haber said there was still no proof.

"The army sent a messenger to (the soldiers') families to inform about what the Sheikh said, but it is hearsay and we don't believe him," Haber said.

Press accounts of Obeid's statements aroused anger in the Israeli government, with officials demanding an inquiry to find the source of the leak.

Police said they might also investigate a reporter from the London Sunday Times, which first reported the story on Aug 13, for possible violation of military censorship.

Israel snatched Obeid from his south Lebanon home three weeks ago hoping to gain leverage in freeing the two soldiers and a navigator missing in Lebanon.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin offered to trade Obeid and other Shiites held by Israel for the three Israelis and 17 Western hostages believed held by Shiite militants.

■ Pakistan is not at the moment engaged in any mediatory role to resolve the hostage crisis in Lebanon, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday in Islamabad.

But Islamabad would respond if it was asked to act as a channel of communication for the purpose, he said at a press briefing.

The "hostages are a humanitarian issue and if we can do something, we will do so."

■ Austrian President Kurt Waldheim has received a message from Syrian President Hafez Assad dealing with the issue of foreign hostages in Lebanon.



Rafsanjani: proclaiming a new era

## Hostage co-operation rejected

### Ahmad's no to US

NICOSIA, Aug 18. (Reuters): Ayatollah-Khomeini's radical son Ahmad has rejected co-operating to release Western hostages in Lebanon and said Iran would drive the United States out of the Middle East.

"Today the United States thinks that since the imam (Khomeini) is no longer among us it can accuse our officials of having contacts with it," he said in remarks clearly timed to coincide with the swearing in of Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani as president.

Rafsanjani, a pragmatist politician aiming to revive Iran's lagging economy and improve its foreign relations, has offered to help the US in freeing American hostages in Lebanon.

"But I tell you that our officials will slap America on the mouth and drive it out of the Middle East," Tehran Radio quoted Ahmad, 32, as saying.

"The American president says that they are ready, with conditions, to solve the hostage problem together with Iran — as if we are after meeting him and he is in a position to set conditions."

President George Bush, welcoming Rafsanjani's offer, has sent indirect messages to Tehran since a pro-Iranian Lebanese group said it had handed US hostage William Higgins on July 31 and another group threatened to kill captive Joseph Cicippio.

# Barge may stay

## Saudis negotiating

MANAMA, Bahrain, Aug 18. (AP): US plans to withdraw its last fortified barge from the Gulf have stalled over Saudi Arabian objections that it would leave the central Saudi coast open to Iranian terrorist infiltrators, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

The Saudis and the US State Department are trying to negotiate an agreement under which the Riyadh government would assume some or all costs of maintaining the barge and its garrison of about 150 Navy, Marine and Army personnel, the sources said.

The talks in Washington are aimed at resolving the issue before Saudi Arabia's King Fahd makes a scheduled state visit there in a month.

The Hercules is one of two large construction barges leased by the Navy in late 1987 for use as top-secret "mobile combat bases." Navy patrol craft and night-prowling Army helicopters based on them could keep tabs on Iranian armed speedboats and mine-laying operations centred at Farsi Island, 60 miles (96 km) off the Saudi coast.

The other barge, Wimbrown 7, was withdrawn last October, two months after a ceasefire ended the eight-year war between Iran and Iraq. US officials said then that the Hercules would remain as long as the "perceived threat" of a new flareup existed.

However, with the truce nearing its first anniversary Aug 20, the Navy reportedly bowed to pressure from budget-conscious Army and Marine Corps officials to withdraw the Hercules.

The barge was being towed to Bahrain last month when the Saudi government raised its objection, forcing the Pentagon to "put everything on hold," said one source.

The Saudi government apparently argued that with its continued high state of tension with Iran, the barge was needed to protect against sabotage or terrorist threats to offshore oil fields as well as petrochemical plants and oil terminals along the central Saudi coast.

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## Moving from one safe house to another

# Rushdie cut off

LONDON, Aug 18. (AP): Salman Rushdie, whose writings Ayatollah Khomeini found offensive to Islam, has spent seven months in hiding, cut off from friends and protected by armed guards.

On Feb 14, the Iranian leader declared Rushdie's novel *The Satanic Verses* blasphemous and told his followers to kill the author. Khomeini died June 3 but his sentence lives.

Rushdie's American wife, Marianne Wiggins, has been quoted as saying the couple have moved 56 times, through a succession of "safe houses" used for spies and intelligence contacts.

Friends who have had brief contact with the British novelist and his wife say they appear to be in good spirits, but that Rushdie believes his seclusion might stretch to two years and end only if Iran formally withdraws the late Ayatollah's threat.

The Indian-born Muslim novelist turned 42 on June 19.

"He's been silenced effectively, and cannot speak in his own defence, and that's a terrible plight for any writer to be in. It's hideous," Lisa Appignamesi, a friend who has spoken to Rushdie by telephone in recent months, said in an interview.

"It's very hard to speak for another person, but I think he's bearing up very well," said Appignamesi, co-author of the Rushdie File, a recent book about the affair.

Rushdie and his wife of 19 months have not been seen in public since police escorted them from their North London home Feb 14 when Iran's spiritual leader called on Muslims to track down the author and kill him.

Many Muslims consider *The Satanic Verses* blasphemous to Islam.

Rushdie issued a statement soon after Khomeini

# Crowe speaks on 'pet peeve'

HONOLULU, Aug 18. (AP): Although they might claim to favour force against terrorists, most Americans are not ready for the consequences of such a military strike, the nation's chief military adviser said.

"There is sort of a syndrome grown up in the United States, that there are certain problems that lend themselves to solution by using military force, but at the same time, many American people think that we should be able to use force without losing anybody," said Adm. William J. Crowe, Jr., chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

According to Crowe, many Americans say, "we will shoot people, we will inject force into the problem, but don't lose any Americans, and don't injure innocent people... and oh, by the way, do it quickly. Don't spend over a week or two doing it. And don't call in... a draft to do it and don't mobilise anybody and don't interrupt our normal lives while all this is going on."

His response: "That can't be done."

Crowe, who is retiring next month after 42 years in the Navy, including four as chief military adviser to the President, called such restrictions on the military his "pet peeve."

"We can solve the terrorism problem if you wish to do it. We can level Beirut," Crowe told the Japan-America Society of Honolulu during a luncheon yesterday. "But we'd kill a lot of innocent people, we'd sacrifice a lot of Americans... I suspect that such a dramatic solution is not acceptable to the American people."

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati wrapped up three days of talks in Damascus and flew home Wednesday after cancelling a planned news conference, Iranian embassy officials said.

# UK to cut presence

DUBAI, Aug 18. (AP): Britain's Armilla Patrol, second in muscle to the US Navy Gulf contingent at the height of the Iraq-Iran war, will drop to only two ships for the first time since 1980, Royal Navy officials said today.

Capt. A.B. Gough, commander of the Royal Navy's frigate HMS *Brave*, told a local English-language newspaper that one of the three Armilla Patrol vessels would be withdrawn as of October.

Britain's Armed Forces Minister Archie Hamilton did not specify a date when he announced the withdrawal decision July 18, and said the third ship should be called back if warranted.

Gough's statements in the Dubai-based *Khaleej Times* come just before the Aug 20 anniversary of the UN-sponsored ceasefire that brought eight years of hostilities between the two northern Gulf belligerents to a halt.

Tehran and Baghdad have been unable to restart peace negotiations, but the ceasefire was held.



Soldier greets Beirutis

An Israeli soldier (left) looks on as a south Lebanon Army soldier greets a Beirut boy and his family as they enter the 'security zone' in southern Lebanon. Some 6,000 Lebanese from both East and West Beirut have entered the Israeli self-declared 'security zone' in the last week. (Reuters wirephoto)

# Lebanon peace plan revived

(Continued from Page 1)

when Syrian shells hit their boat last week.

Political sources said the situation remained complex and bleak although the UN peace call has brought an easing of last week's savage bombardment that killed 145 people in five days.

Although Aoun accepted the UN appeal, he insists on the lifting of the siege and a pullout of Syrian troops from Lebanon before any talks of a long-term settlement.

Syria and its 18 Muslim and leftist allied militias have vowed to keep shelling Christian ports to stop arms shipments to Aoun by Damascus' main Arab foe, Baghdad. They said the consignments tilted the balance of power in favour of Aoun.

Syria's official Al Baath newspaper said today the ceasefire would only succeed if Lebanon's Christian forces stopped receiving weapons.

The Syrian side said they would only accept the ceasefire if Lebanon's security committee, including Christian and Muslim officers, monitored Christian ports to prevent the arms from entering.

Aoun has repeatedly rejected the proposal.

Deputies yesterday met Sunni Muslim acting Prime Minister Selim Hoss, who heads a Syrian-backed cabinet.

France, which has close ties with Lebanon, has sent envoys to Moscow — Syria's traditional ally — as well as Damascus, Cairo, Tunis, Algiers, Riyadh, Rabat and the Vatican, as part of its peace mission.

It also said it despatched the aircraft carrier *Foch* to Lebanese waters to protect French citizens if needed. Some 7,000 French nationals, most with dual nationality live in Lebanon.

France hopes the mere presence of its naval vessels off Lebanon will halt shelling long enough to enable any rescue operation to take place, French Prime Minister Michel Rocard said today.

France proposed today an urgent meeting of the political directors of the 12 European Economic Community nations to discuss putting together a package of humanitarian aid for Lebanon, the Foreign Ministry said in Paris.

Thousands of Beirut residents — some estimates say half the 1.5 million population — have fled the capital to escape the fighting. Red Cross doctors said today typhoid fever had broken out among some of the refugees camping in south Lebanon.

Jordan's King Hussein flew to Baghdad for talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Palestinian Liberation Organisation leader Yasser Arafat about Lebanon.

"They will review the recent escalation of violence in Lebanon and moves by the Arab countries to bring an end to the bloodletting and to help solve the Lebanese crisis," said Azzam Al Ahmad, the PLO representative to Baghdad, said before the talks got under way.

# Beirutis flee, but long for home

BEIT YAHOUN, Lebanon, Aug 18. (Reuters): Lebanese streaming south to escape the battle for Beirut say they expect a long stay in Israeli-controlled territory but hope to return to rebuild their war-torn capital.

Contrary to Israeli Army statements that almost all the refugees want to resettle in the Israeli-declared border security zone, none of several interviewed yesterday said they would abandon Beirut permanently.

"You fear death at any time, but you never think of leaving your city. I like and want to return to," said Lina Beydoun, a Shiite Muslim student from West Beirut.

"It will be a long time," she said, adding that rebuilding the shell-ravaged city would take much longer. "It will be very difficult. It will take 10, 20, 30 years."

Graziella Chbat fled Christian East Beirut with her husband and four children yesterday, before shelling on both sides of Beirut's Green Line shattered a ceasefire called by the United Nations Security Council.

Chbat and Beydoun were among 250 Lebanese who crossed into the security zone at Beit Yahoun village.

Israeli military officials said some 6,000 had arrived in the past week after shelling intensified in the Beirut area.

New arrivals told of turmoil in Beirut — of covering in bomb shelters, dashing to stores during rare lulls in the shelling, getting water from pumps.

"But many all refused to appear blame for the fighting. Most would not disclose their religion."

"They have shelled my apartment," said Aida Awada, without saying who "they" were. When pressed, she said: "I don't know. They don't read messages with the shells."

Nadri Abdallah, a 13-year-old student, said: "It doesn't matter who the next president will be, Christian or Muslim, as long as he is faithful to Lebanese people of all religions."

Most recent arrivals in the security belt moved in the relatives. Some own vacation homes in the area while others chose the region because of its relative tranquility.

Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982 to wipe out Palestinian commando bases. It withdrew most of its troops in 1985, leaving several hundred soldiers in a 10-km (six-mile) buffer zone to repel attacks on its northern border.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin warned Syria yesterday not to violate the limits of military activity in Lebanon acceptable to Israel.

A meeting of the 35 opposition

## RELIEF

A casualty of war: Rima, 25, suffers from burning chest pains, has lost her sense of affection for her two children and rejects her husband's sexual advances.

Convinced she suffered from heart problems, she went from one private specialist to another.

Finally she saw Dr Edward Azouri at the Hospital of the Cross, Beirut's only psychiatric hospital.

"Many people show physical symptoms of stress and anxiety induced by the conflict in Lebanon," he said. "Rima is a typical example of someone who needs to talk, to let her problems out in psychotherapy sessions."

In 15 years of civil war, Azouri estimated, the number of Lebanese suffering anxiety disorders has grown at least five-fold. Many feel severe headaches or pains in the chest or stomach.

"An individual is no longer motivated by things that normally interest him or her. Listlessness, physical pain and loss of both appetite and sex drive are common symptoms."

One bulwark against the psychological attrition of constant artillery fire is family life, which in Lebanon is traditionally close-knit.

**Typhoid outbreak:** Typhoid fever has broken out among refugees camping in south Lebanon to escape the battle of Beirut, Red Cross doctors said today.

By some estimates at least half of the capital's 1.5 million people have fled.

The doctors, who work for the International Committee of the Red Cross, said the infections were due to poor living conditions and sanitation. Many of the refugees sleep in the open, under tents or in cars.

Among 350 people along the banks of the Awali river 40 km (25 miles) south of Beirut, at least eight have typhoid, 15 severe diarrhoea and eight high fevers, they said. (Reuters)

**Medical aid:** A ship loaded with some \$800,000 worth of medical supplies is on its way from Italy to Lebanon and is expected to arrive there on Tuesday, the United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO) said today.

The shipment will be distributed to victims of fighting in Lebanon by private relief organisations, an UNDRO spokesman told a regular weekly news briefing.

He said a further consignment of medicines, blankets and cooking utensils from an UNDRO storehouse at Pisa, Italy, was expected to leave by ship for Lebanon on September 1. (Reuters)

**15th year of carnage:** The carnage in Lebanon is in its 15th year. Who fired the first shot that unleashed the mayhem is still in dispute.

But it was a bloody Sunday, April 13, 1975, that the casual incident occurred in the Beirut suburb of Ain Al-Roumaneh.

Christian leaders and their bodyguards were celebrating the opening of a church. A bus-load of Palestinians passed.

Palestinians say Christian militiamen raked their bus with gunfire. Christians say the Palestinians fired the first shot.

But the ensuing slaughter definitely marked the first round of a civil war that has split Lebanon into a patchwork of competing fiefdoms, dominated by paramilitary forces armed, trained and financed by Syria, Iraq, Iran, Libya and Israel.

The roots of the current bloodletting are numerous and run, much deeper. They have in common a struggle for identity.

**Paper urges:** A government-run daily yesterday urged Arab countries to force Syria to withdraw its forces from Lebanon, accusing Syrian President Hafez Assad of attempting to annex Lebanon and create "a greater Syria."

The English-language paper the *Baghdad Observer* said Arabs should not allow Syria to remain the dominant force in Lebanon and urged them to abandon soft diplomatic language with Assad.

"Tell the Syrians to leave. Never allow them to occupy the remaining one third of Lebanon," it said in an editorial referring to the Christian enclave, the only place of Lebanon where no Syrian troops are deployed.

"The situation in Lebanon has reached a point where courteous diplomatic words are no longer valid to bring about an end to the Beirut carnage," it said. (AP)

**Call for ceasefire:** The United States said yesterday it considered Christian Commander Michel Aoun's acceptance of a ceasefire in Lebanon to be unconditional and called on Syria and its allies to do likewise.

"In the US view he's (Aoun) accepted the call that was made by the UN for a ceasefire. That didn't have conditions on it," State Department Deputy Spokesman Richard Boucher told reporters.

He said the Bush administration regrets that the ceasefire has not yet taken hold.

"We believe the (UN) Security Council's call for a ceasefire should be accepted by all parties to the fighting."

"As I said yesterday, there can be no military solution to the problems in Lebanon. And we think this message should be understood clearly by all the parties to the conflict," he said.

Fighting flared along Beirut's Green Line battle zone on Thursday and pro-Syrian gunners shelled the coast of the Christian enclave despite the UN ceasefire call. (Reuters)

# Monstrous World War II mortars devastate Beirut

BEIRUT, Aug 18. (Reuters): Syria's trump card in the fighting that has devastated Beirut over the past five months is a simple weapon designed in the Soviet Union half a century ago.

The 240mm breech-loaded mortar is a massive beast, originally designed in 1938 to reduce heavily-reinforced strongpoints within a range of 9,000 metres (yards).

It can fire six 45 kg (100 pound) bombs every minute and military analysts say Syria has 18 of these steel monsters in and

around the Lebanese capital.

According to the Guinness Book of Records, the largest mortars ever made were the Mallets mortar built at Woolwich Arsenal in Britain in 1857 and "Little David" made in the United States in World War Two. Both were 920mm calibre but never used in action.

A mortar carves out a steep parabola in flight, and plummets vertically onto its target.

In the bombardments that have brought

death and destruction to this once beautiful Mediterranean city, the 240mm mortar has had a special role, the analysts say.

It has been used primarily to flatten Baabda presidential palace, where Army Commander Michel Aoun directs his anti-Syrian "War of liberation" from a bunker replete with air conditioning, potted plants and even the general's two cars.

The bunker is safe, but the floors above are riddled with massive holes blasted by

240mm mortar bombs.

The Defence Ministry has also been hammered night and day.

Western military analysts say some 70 per cent of the shelling directed at the Christian enclave has come from batteries manned by Syrian troops, the remainder from Syria's Muslim and leftist Lebanese allies.

Syria denies its forces have taken part in the conflict.

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### Prize catch

Kuwaiti Adel Ahmad Al Idan, 31, recently caught a two-metre-shark in Hishan, Doha.

He said he went out fishing in a 16-foot cruiser with his brother Hussein and friend Abbas Abdullah Al Salem.

It took the crew 45 minutes to lift the catch out of the sea. He said he had caught over 20 sharks previously, but, none could compare with this whopper!

He said that he intended to gift his catch to the National Museum.

# Sale of visas flourishing business: report

Expats pay from KD 300 to KD 750 to buy visas

**An Arabic daily reports that expats come only to stay and not to work and are willing to pay hefty sums of money to remain in the country. Some expats work for employers other than their sponsor; others who entered with a legal work permit are yet to find jobs.**

"TRADE in residence permits" has emerged as a new business in the Kuwait market, reports a local Arabic daily. It said the business has become an easy way to make profits and is gaining ground.

Most expatriates, both Arab and non-Arab, refused to divulge the amount they paid to obtain visas. But it is an open secret that maids and low-paid workers pay large sums of money to obtain visas.

The Kuwaiti residence law prohibits the taking or giving of money to obtain a work permit.

The Arabic paper reports that expats come to Kuwait only to "stay and not to work". The foreigners come through legal channels. When their residence expires, they pay a large amount of money to a beneficiary to obtain a legal work permit to work at a company. In reality, they don't earn their living at the company or with the sponsor giving them the work permit, the report said.

Some enter through legal channels with the knowledge they will not be working for their sponsor, it added.

### Future

Many workers know they face an uncertain future. "They wander through the streets of Kuwait, first in search of a job to first settle their debts to friends or relatives and pay their sponsors, thus embarking on the agonising journey to earn a living", it said. The problem, the report said,

is that most workers don't find suitable jobs to an honest day's work.

The report said that most workers who buy residence permits are uneducated and insecure and are afraid to express their misery.

The report said repeated calls have been made by residents to organise this sector to prevent the exploitation of poor labourers by illegal profit-makers. The residents stressed that the "pressing issue of trade in residence permits" could eventually harm the country. They also expressed surprise that an illegal trade was growing in a country that is trying to curb the influx of labour and balance the population.

### Search

Most expats agree to pay a percentage of their salary toward the work permit issued to them by some sponsors. The Arabic daily interviewed some expats who entered the country through legal means; and held "unpaid" residence permits. Some have found jobs; others are still searching.

Egyptian Hossain Shaker came to Kuwait eight months ago as construction labourer. He

earns an average of about KD 200 a month and saves 50 percent of his earnings. He also pays a part of his earnings to his sponsor but refused to divulge the amount he pays each month. He is, however, able to save a reasonable sum of money after deducting the price of residence renewal.

Saad Ahmad, a lumberjack, works for a week each month for sponsor to repay the cost of the visa he obtained six months ago. He stays with a group of other labourers in an Arabian style home.

Pakistani Mohammad Amaan paid Rs 60,000 (KD 750) to an agent in his country to get a work permit. He now pays KD 300 per year to his previous sponsor to renew his residence permit for the last nine years. He has been living in Kuwait for nine years and earns KD 150 per month. Unlike others, he works at sponsor's company. After deducting his monthly expenses, he manages to save KD 100, he said.

Mohammad Weebada came to Kuwait 10 years and began working at a cooperative society. Later, he took up the job of an ice cream vendor and had his

residence transferred. Weebada came for a sponsor other than his employer.

Iranian Hussain Ahmad refuses to discuss his residence permit issue. He came to Kuwait 30 years ago as a construction labourer and still does the job, earning an average of KD 7 per day. His family lives in his native country and he travels every two years to visit them.

Mahmoud Abdul Hafeeth, an Egyptian, came to work here at the age of 16. A construction worker, his day starts at 6 am and ends at 4 pm. He shares a house with six others and earns an average of KD 6 per day. Thirteen years ago, he said, the Kuwaiti Embassy granted visit visas to labourers. "Now things have changed," he said. Hafeeth pays an undisclosed sum of money each year to renew his residence permit.

Egyptian Qanawi Farraj is no different. Farraj disclosed that he paid a sum of KD 600 to buy a residence permit and will pay an equal amount to have the visa renewed. He pays about KD 40 for a single room in a house that he shares with six others.

Bangladeshi Mustafa Al Sayed earns about KD 150 per

month as a master construction worker. He has been sponsored by a private company, where he works, and saves about KD 80 each month, spending his spare time at home to save more money.

Naser Ahmad from Egypt said that he worked in Jordan and Iraq prior to coming to Kuwait in 1982. He said that he is employed as a blacksmith with a monthly salary of KD 200 from which he saves half each month. Naser stated that he obtained a working visa to Kuwait through his brother working here. His brother said that he paid a large amount of money to obtain "this piece of work paper", an amount he did not disclose. To add to the payment misery, he added that he quite often works for the "paid sponsor" free of charge. Unheard of, or something that would never be believed in any other part of the world, he said.

"To change my residence from my present work place where I work as a labourer for the past four years, I had to pay an amount of KD 350 to my sponsor so that he could renew my residence", Mohammed Sulaiman from Bangladesh said. "My monthly salary is KD 120

and I have not been home to see my family in four years," he said and added: "It broke my heart to part with what I feel would have gone a long way to ease the misery of my family back home". This is the only reason I came to Kuwait, he said.

Salma Bateekh, an Egyptian, said that since a year, he has been working from 7:00 am till 4:00 pm everyday on a monthly salary of KD 90. He said he stays on the premises he works and has not known a single holiday since the time he started work. He said, he was fortunate that he had a brother who paid for his visa to come to Kuwait.

Mohammed Ahmad, who came to Kuwait three years ago, working as a construction worker and said that he has to pay his sponsor KD 30 every month. He said that he has come to accept his monthly payments as a "perpetual debt". "Though I am not highly educated, I can easily realise what the term 'bonded slavery' means," he added.

However, several others who have been interviewed, though echoing more or less identical sentiments, added that the efforts to the government authorities to eradicate this scourge in formulating laws and regulations have positively contributed in reducing the potentials of "a few of those who trade on their nationality" and believe that this phenomenon will, in the not too distant future, be completely eradicated.

## Restricted calls for Shuwaikh subscribers

A RESPONSIBLE source at the Ministry of Communications said that Shuwaikh Central designed and established to provide a limited number of telephone calls during the peak hours. This number was limited according to studies with a view to capacity to take the additional calls. The source said that due to the abnormal increase in the number of calls being placed through this central, subscribers do not get the line instantly. The line delays for a few seconds. He referred the increase of calls to the misguided use of telephones. Some subscribers when they lift the speaker and do not get the line, try to get the line another time which increases the pressure on the central during the peak hours. But he added that with the introduction of computers, the subscriber is kept on a waiting list till a free line is available. The wait period lasts for a few seconds, the official said.

## Sunstroke victim in Makkah hospital

A KUWAITI woman has been hospitalised in Makkah after suffering a severe sunstroke during the haj season. Her son has said that his mother's case has taken a dramatic turn.

The hospital staff allegedly denied Kuwaiti diplomats the right to visit the woman, who is in a coma, her son claims.

## Foreign aid not cut by deficits: Khorafi

KUWAIT, Aug 17. (OPECNA): Kuwait is still maintaining its high level of foreign aid despite the country's budget deficit, according to Finance Minister Jassim Mohamed Al Khorafi.

He said in an interview here the country was still occupying a leading role in its foreign assistance compared to gross national product (GNP), allowing Kuwait to maintain "a distinguished role in supporting development programmes in sisterly as

well as friendly countries."

The government had adopted a number of measures designed to boost the economic sector, including extended support to the country's financial institutions to help them gain credibility domestically and abroad.

National banks had also been assisted in settling difficult debts while the Central Bank had exerted efforts to enable other lending institutions improve their performance and achieve a

higher level of competency.

Al Khorafi added that the government was keen to see the development of inter-bank and inter-institution relations as part of efforts to reach international banking standards.

The recent restructuring of some Kuwaiti investment companies had been aimed at "putting our companies on the long and difficult road of competition as regards to provision of adequate capital."

## Salem praises girls' role in civil defence

INTERIOR Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah has praised the level of co-operation extended by the citizens as well as expatriates to the security authorities in Kuwait. He said in many instances information provided by citizens and expatriates, assisted security forces in apprehending culprits. In an interview with the press group at Dasma Summer Club for girls, Sheikh Salem stressed that through the co-operation of the public in Kuwait, peace and stability can prevail. He emphasised that security is the responsibility of all and not only that of the security forces. He added that the records of the ministry are replete with many bright pictures of the co-operation demonstrated by the public with the security forces. He also said that the ministry is co-operating and co-ordinating with interior ministries in Arab countries either through the council of the Arab interior ministers or through direct contacts and meetings with Arab interior ministers.

The Defence Ministry, and National Guards also contribute along with the Interior Ministry in protecting and safeguarding the country. He praised the capabilities of Kuwaiti women particularly their participation in the civil defence programme.

"Women have proved that they are up to the standard in joining and learning the civil defence methods," the official said and added that the Interior Ministry is co-operating and co-ordinating with other state ministries and departments in implementing the civil defence programme.

A number of experiments have been carried out in a number of ministries, Sheikh Salem said and commented that the ministry has strategic plans and other short-term schemes to uplift and standard of the various departments and agencies to enable them to establish peace, stability and security and safeguard the society from crimes and terrorism, Sheikh Salem said.



### Summer club queries

● Kuwait's Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah last week received the members of the Firdous Summer Club for Girls. He answered their queries about security and traffic matters. He also received a token gift from the club. Above: some of the girls with Sheikh Salem.

### Housing week next month

## Focus on interior decor

KUWAIT, Aug 18. (KUNA): The Director General of the Public Authority for Housing Dr Ibrahim Al Shaheen said the next housing week will focus on helping people to learn more about interior decoration and furnishings.

The fourth housing week will be held from Sept 30 to Oct 6, he announced, adding that Kuwait will also celebrate the Arab Housing Day on Oct 2.

He said the week will be devoted to "direct meetings" with citizens to discuss their requirements. "We will spare no efforts in explaining our plans to the citizens," he said.

Al Shaheen said housing was one of the top priorities with the government since 1954.

Previous weeks focussed on creating awareness about maintenance of homes.

## Buckle-up for safety

BAHRAIN is to introduce mandatory wearing of seat belts by drivers of all government vehicles from January 1990 and for all motorists and front-seat passengers from June of the same year. The proposal made by the Traffic Board has been recently submitted to the cabinet for approval.

In recent years the government of Bahrain has been intensifying a campaign to ensure general safety of all drivers and passengers in the island by appealing to drivers in particular to use seat belts. The appeal has been made repeatedly in the wake of increasing number of road accidents in the country. Bahrain in view of its population and size has the highest number of vehicles in the region totalling at present over 110,000—almost one vehicle for every four people in the island of over 400,000 population. This has consequently led to the general safety concerns of both motorists as well as pedestrians.

The Directorate of Traffic and Licensing Board has voiced concern in recent months about the general lack of awareness for safe driving among motorists. This coupled with the increasing flow of imported vehicles to Bahrain, particularly over the weekends, with the opening of the King Fahd Causeway, has led to the proposal of introducing compulsory wearing of seat belts.

The idea to implement this proposal was first mooted by the government two years back when it was decided to allow motorists to gradually take up wearing of seat belts on their own accord rather than any precipitous official action. It was intended that motorists would gradually release the invaluable use of seat belts while driving which would reduce road injuries and save lives. It is generally believed by experts here that the use of seat belt while driving reduce the chances of death by 80 per cent. The idea was to make them aware of the dangers of driving without seat belts.

According to Colonel Sheikh Dajj Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa the campaign to highlight the use of seat belts has been a success judging by the response by the number of motorists. As a consequence of this he added that the proposal to present the proposal was promoted by the Traffic Board, chaired by the Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa.

The decision to push the proposal through has also been based on a study of fatal accidents involving drivers in Bahrain, covering an eight-year period from 1981-88. The study revealed that 81 per cent of drivers who died in road accidents could have been saved if they had worn seat belts. The results showed that there is only 19 per cent risk of death for drivers wearing belts. A recent official survey revealed that only ten per cent of drivers in Bahrain (out of 116,999 vehicles, 11,838 drivers) wear seat belts.

Sheikh Dajj said that details of the penalties for breaking the law were now being worked out by the Traffic Directorate's legal division. Meanwhile, about fifty thousand questionnaires are now being distributed to drivers to study the reasons behind their refusal or reluctance to wear seat belts.

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## KUWAIT ... GULF

## Action Line

I CAME to Kuwait in 1985 on a visa No. 20. I am a qualified mechanic, recently I found a new employer who is willing to give me a visa No. 18. The ministry rejected my application because I am a Pakistani. Can I change my residence to No. 18? How can I get No. 18 visa? Please advise.

**Mohammad T. Qayum**  
THE Ministry of Social Affairs did not refuse the visa because you are a Pakistani; they rejected it because you entered Kuwait in 1985; also the ministry is not transferring any visa No. 20 to visa No. 18. If you apply for such a transfer, the request is rejected. You can ask your employer to give you a new visa. If you cannot get one, there is nothing you can do about it.

**MY question** concerns the legal requirement about the change of address of an expatriate in the Civil Identity Card in a specific situation. A person has changed his house, but his new house is in the same area, same block and same street as his earlier house. Only the villa number has changed from No. 4 to No. 5. This new villa is hardly 20 metres away from the old one. Now, is it obligatory for him to go through all the formalities to get a new ID-card just to change his house number? Such a problem is faced by many expatriates. Please provide guidance.

**Name Withheld**  
IT is obligatory to go through all the formalities and get a new ID card. Even if you changed an apartment in the same building, it is essential to make the necessary amendments for the ID card, giving the correct address. The Residence Laws stipulate that all changes must be notified immediately to the authorities. If you don't, you will be breaking the law.

**I WORK** in the public sector, drawing an adequate salary. My wife holds a dependent visa No. 22. We have a two year old child born in India. He holds a separate passport. We want to bring him here. What can we do for this? Can we bring him on a visit visa and change it to a dependent visa?

**Devan**  
WE made queries on your behalf at the immigration department and were told that you can apply for a visit visa for the child if you meet all the requirements. Within two weeks of the child's arrival, you must regularise his papers and apply for a dependent visa. We would like to inform you that the issuance of a visa depends on the acceptance of an application by the immigration authorities.

**I WOULD** like to bring my unmarried sister on a visit visa to Kuwait. Is it possible for me to apply for a visit visa? What is the minimum salary required? What documents are needed to apply for a visit visa?

**Ms Photo**  
AN immigration official, replying to your query, said that the sponsor must be a Kuwaiti citizen or a resident in Kuwait. To apply for a visit visa, you must provide documentary evidence proving your relationship with your sister, recently issued salary certificate, sponsor's civil ID card and photocopy, a visa application form, duly completed. A sponsor must apply in person and produce a valid passport with a valid residence permit on demand at the Immigration Office. The Ministry of Interior, however, reserves the right to accept or reject a visit visa application.

**I HAVE** been working in the Health Ministry for the last 10 years, drawing a salary of KD280. Since I did not succeed in obtaining a dependent visa, I brought my wife on a domestic visa. After staying with me for two years, she recently went back to my country and is now the mother of a two month old baby.

**I call my wife** on a domestic visa, will she be allowed to bring the child on my sponsorship? Can I get a family visa on humanitarian grounds?

**P.S. Mami**  
AN immigration official, replying to your query, said that the sponsor must be a Kuwaiti citizen or a resident in Kuwait. To apply for a visit visa, you must provide documentary evidence proving your relationship with your sister, recently issued salary certificate, sponsor's civil ID card and photocopy, a visa application form, duly completed. A sponsor must apply in person and produce a valid passport with a valid residence permit on demand at the Immigration Office. The Ministry of Interior, however, reserves the right to accept or reject a visit visa application.

**Many expatriates** call their wives on domestic visas but the practice is against the residence rules of this country. The widespread misuse of the domestic visa to call families prompted the authorities to amend the rules.

**I CAME** to Kuwait in June 1989 as a domestic helper. After a month, my employer was angry with me and kicked me in the flat and cancelled my visa.

- 1) Can I still work here for another employer or sponsor?
- 2) Can I still use my passport although the visa has been cancelled?
- 3) How many days should I stay here? My visa was cancelled on July 23.
- 4) What will happen if I stay in the country?
- 5) What will I do if I don't have my plane ticket? If my sponsor doesn't provide my plane ticket, can I work part-time to earn the air fare?
- 6) Will I go to jail?

**O.R.**  
IF your visa has been cancelled, you cannot stay in the country. When the immigration authority cancels a visa, they give a grace period for you to pack up and leave. You must ask your employer how many days grace period the authority has given you. Normally, you are given about eight days to three weeks.

If you overstay after the cancellation of a visa, you will be considered an illegal resident in Kuwait. As you don't have a valid residence permit, you can be deported by the authorities.

If you don't have the money for the plane ticket, you can go to the immigration department and tell them your problem. The immigration officials will call your employer and tell him to buy the air ticket. You cannot stay back to earn the money for the plane ticket. The rules say that an employer must pay the cost of repatriating a domestic helper.

A person is jailed if he or she commits an offence or violates the law. If you run away (abscond) from your employer then you can be jailed and deported. But if your employer has cancelled the visa, then he is responsible for you till you board the plane.

You can use the passport to travel to your country. If someone else gives you a job and sponsorship, then you can re-enter the country on a fresh visa.

**A MAID'S** visa has been cancelled and she has been given one month's grace period to leave the country. She has now found a new sponsor. Can she transfer her residence? Both the old and the new sponsors agree to the arrangement.

**Name not supplied**  
IF a person's visa has been cancelled, he or she is obliged to leave the country before the end of the grace period. Enquiries at the immigration office show that if the visa has been cancelled, then that person must leave the country. However, if the visa has not been cancelled and both the old and the new sponsors agree, then a transfer of residence application may be taken into consideration. One alternative would be to re-enter on a fresh visa.

1. AM I covered by the labour rules issued in March this year?
2. If my employer refuses to give a release paper, can I seek the assistance of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour?
3. How can I prove that the release paper that has been issued will be accepted by the ministry?
4. As we understand, a sponsor is required to pay the expense of issuing such a visa or release paper while transferring the visa. How much does it cost?

**Liza Moreno**  
1. YOU did not say on which visa you entered Kuwait. If you are on a domestic visa, No. 20, you are not covered by the labour law. If you are on a No. 18 visa, then you come under the labour law.  
2. We cannot give an accurate reply because you did not tell us the type of visa you hold. If you are on a No. 20 visa, you can seek the help of a court to get a release.  
3. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour reserves the right to accept or reject any application.  
4. It is forbidden by the law to pay money to get visa. If money is paid for a visa to make gains, it is punishable under the law. The visa fee, fixed by the government of Kuwait, is KD10 per year. But you must not pay money to buy a visa.

If you have a legal problem, labour or any other kind, send your questions to Arab Times Legal Clinic. Our Kuwait lawyer Khaled Taher replies to readers' queries. Write to Arab Times, PO Box 2270, 13023.



## Negligence blamed for house collapse

By Fawzi Al Tameemi

AN old Arabian-style house in Uqaila collapsed on Friday due to negligence, the neighbours claimed. No one was injured but the family lost nearly all their possessions.

Residents said this was the second incident in six months. "The authorities have neglected our area," they said. Some residents said they have not been paid although their names were put on the expropriation list for 12 months. "Only people with influence are allocated funds," they alleged.

The residents, all Kuwaitis, said that there had been no discrepancies in expropriation of their properties. They said the government will pay KD 42 per square metre. People in neighbouring homes were paid as much as KD 150 per square metre, they claimed.

## Crime beat

## Wife wins divorce on medical grounds

A WOMAN was granted divorce because of her husband's impotence by the Cassation Court, upholding an earlier verdict, granting a divorce on medical grounds.

The case was first heard by the Court of Personal Status, which ruled that the couple would be monitored for an year before any judgement is made.

The woman then appealed to the Court of Higher Appeal which reversed the verdict, granting divorce. Her husband, then appealed to the highest authority, the Cassation Court.

The woman then appealed to the Cassation Court, which said it agreed with both judgements but due to the husband's inability to perform his duties, the wife has the right to divorce.

The medical reports proved that the husband's condition would not improve within a year. The woman had filed a divorce case after a year of marriage saying that she was still a virgin. She told the court that her husband was "sexually incompetent." The husband said that he had provided his wife with comforts and wanted her to live as his wife. In accordance with Islamic sharia, the Personal Status Court delayed judgement for a year to ascertain the status of their marriage.

## Electric shocker

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man to five-years rigorous imprisonment to be followed by deportation for attempting to sexually assault a woman in his office.

The court was told that the defendant, employed by the Ministry of Electricity and Water, was visited by a woman who wanted her electricity connection restored. The defendant informed the woman that she should come to the office in the evening along with the rent receipt and the required funds for having her electricity reconnected.

In the evening, accompanied by a friend, the victim called on the employee, only to be physically accosted.

The victim and her companion lodged a complaint with the police, who after investigations, arrested the employee.

A medical report indicated that the employee had been recently sexually abused, the fact which the victim had stated in her complaint to the police.

## Romancer murders paramour

A MAN romantically involved with a widow, considered to be his paramour, was sentenced to life in prison for her murder.

According to sources, the court was told that on a complaint filed by the victim's sister, the police were called to a flat in the Ardiya area to investigate a foul smell emanating from the room.

The police opened the door and found the partly decomposed body of the

deceased.  
Investigations of the Criminal Investigation Department proved beyond a doubt that the accused was the culprit.

According to well informed sources, the Court of Misdemeanours who sentenced the accused were told that the murder stemmed from the defendant's belief that the victim had been unfaithful to him.

Forensic expert said the woman died of stab wounds inflicted to the area surrounding the heart.

## Jail term for drug dealer

THE Court of Higher Appeal sentenced an accused to 40-months rigorous imprisonment on charges of trading in hashish. The accused had been previously convicted to serve five-years rigorous imprisonment on the same charge by the Court of First Instance.

The court was told that the defendant was arrested red-handed as he was selling a piece of hashish to an undercover agent for an amount of KD100. The marked currency and the contraband was retrieved from the person of the accused, the court was informed.

## Deported for indecency

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court has sentenced an Asian couple to two years imprisonment with hard labour for indecency in a public place. The jail term was later suspended and replaced with a fine of KD50 each and deportation.

The couple was arrested in the back seat of a car in a compromising position in Jahriya. The patrol cars, doing their rounds, spotted the couple and arrested them.

## Reformed addict jailed

A DRUG addict treated for addiction and rehabilitated, has been sentenced to five-years imprisonment with hard labour and a fine of KD330 for trading in narcotics and being a repeat offender.

The addict, had been "termed a reformed addict" and was kept under constant surveillance as a "self-precautionary measure" to ensure a non-relapse. Unfortunately, the surveillance, netted not only a repetition of the convicts addiction, but led to the seizure of a kg of heroin.

The arrest of the addict is the result of the co-operative efforts of the drug squad, the medical monitoring agencies related to drug abusers, the criminal investigation authorities and authorities who are catalysts in trying to bring about if not the complete eradication of this deadly curse, a level that is so minuscule, that could be more easily monitored and controlled.

## Traffic accidents

THREE people were killed and 28 injured in traffic accidents in Kuwait from Aug 7 to 12, according to statistics issued by the traffic department in Kuwait. A total of 353 accidents took place damaging or destroying 318 vehicles. A total of 161 accidents occurred in Hawalli and Farwaniya governorates, 106 in the capital, 53 in Ahmadi and 33 in Jahra.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Congratulations

HH the Amir has sent a cable of congratulations to Indonesia's President Gen. Soeharto, on the occasion of his country's National Day.

HH the Amir also sent a similar cable of congratulations to the President of Gabon on the occasion of his country's National Day.

## Cooler schools

KUWAIT, Aug 18, (KUNA): AC units would be installed at 246 of the 260 government schools in Kuwait before the start of the school season.

The installation of work is nearing completion.

Engineer Jassem Abdul Hamid said that the first phase involves installing AC units at kindergartens and primary schools.

His Highness the Amir of Kuwait has ordered supply of all schools in Kuwait with air-conditioning units at his personal cost. The next phase, involving intermediate and secondary schools, will be implemented next year.

## Teaching allowance

THE Ministry of Education is still studying additional allowances for teachers who work in remote areas. The incentives are to encourage female teachers to take up assignments in remote areas.

Several factors are being examined like qualification, experience and location of residence to determine the amount of allowance.

Mohammad Al Fuhaid of the Jahra Educational Area said that the number of students has multiplied in recent years. Temporary pre-fabricated classrooms have been put up to cope with the influx of students, he said. A number of new schools and kindergartens have also been opened.



## Independence celebration

The Indonesian embassy in Kuwait last week celebrated that country's Independence Day on Thursday. A flag-hoisting ceremony, followed by a brief cultural programme was held at the chancery premises in Nugra. A large number of Indonesians attended. Picture shows some of the Indonesians praying after the flag-hoisting ceremony.

## More policemen to control traffic

MORE policemen are being deployed to control traffic at major road intersections, said Col. Salem Abdul Wahab.

Wahab, who is acting director-general at the Traffic Department said, police recruits are being deployed at inner and main streets on a two-shift basis to control traffic. They will also monitor violators and coordinate the flow of traffic, he said.

The Police Academy recruits are trained on the job under experienced supervisors. Sometimes they replace officers on leave, he said.

Another officer, Major Mohammad Al Jumaa said the academy students helped out the police

force to overcome shortage of staff during summer months.

Practical training helps them become better policemen, said Al Jumaa. "Often, they work under pressure during peak hours and learn how to avoid traffic jams during rush hour," he said.

Discipline, commitment and a sense of duty are inculcated in the students from the start so that they become good officers, he said.

Academy students also get practical training on how to use wireless equipment and how to deal with errant motorists.



## Drug pedlars arrested

Two Kuwaitis have been arrested for allegedly dealing in narcotics. Mohammad A. was arrested while selling heroin and Ali S. confessed during investigations, sources said. A large quantity of heroin was also confiscated from their home. Their case is pending further investigation. Above: Mohammad A. and Ali S. with the contraband.

## New TV station at Failaka

## Kuwait prepares for info-art week in Cairo

KUWAIT, Aug 18, (KUNA):

Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah yesterday signed a 12-month contract to set up the TV transmission station on Failaka island.

The KD3.199,000 project will be implemented by Sayyid Hameed Bahbahani company which was represented at the signing ceremony by Fuad Bahbahani.

Sheikh Jaber said the signing of the contract was in line with the ministry's future plan to provide full and clear TV coverage to all Kuwaiti areas in accordance with the most advanced technical methods.

This new project, added the minister, was also in response to the directions of His Highness the Amir and HH the Crown Prince and Premier who have always been keen on providing all facilities needed for the citizens and the public.

The contract's signing ceremony was attended by the ministry's undersecretary and other senior officials.

Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah also said his ministry would organise a week-long info and art festival in Cairo to further boost existing co-operation between the two countries to develop Kuwaiti-Egyptian relations.

The festival will take place from Aug 23 to 30. It would include a photo exhibition depicting

fraternal relations between the two countries and aspects of modern life in Kuwait.

Sheikh Jaber said a surrealistic art exhibition and a display of Kuwaiti publications are among the activities of the week which will coincide with the visit of HH the Amir of Kuwait to Egypt, scheduled for Aug 28.

The National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, the University of Kuwait, Kuwait Foundation for Advancement of Science, press institutions and national publishing houses would take part in the exhibition which will be organised in collaboration with Kuwait's embassy in Cairo.

Experts from the two countries in economic and cultural fields will take part in symposia on aspects of co-operation, Kuwaiti investments in Egypt and the theatrical movement in Kuwait.

Efforts of the Kuwaiti Islamic antiquities house in archaeological works in Egypt's Bahariya area and activities of Kuwait National Museum would also be displayed at the exhibition.

Sheikh Jaber voiced appreciation for Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid, Information Minister Safwat Al Sharif and Culture Minister Farouq Husni for their co-operation in organising the activity.

## Airport traffic declines

There has been a three per cent drop in the number of people using Kuwait Airport in July this year, according to a report issued by the Civil Aviation Authority.

The drop was measured on the traffic movement at the same time last year. The numbers reduced due to an increasing trend among residents to travel by car to nearby countries such as Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and the UAE, it said.

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# ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

IT is never too late to be what you might have been — George Eliot, English novelist (1819-1880).

## PRESS REVIEW

The daily *Al Rai Al Aam* on Friday reiterated that inter-Arab differences were the main reason behind the alarming situation in Lebanon.

In an editorial comment, the paper said political slogans alone cannot resolve the Lebanese crisis and stressed that the country's ordeal reflects the unrealistic Arab policy which is characterised by extremity and backwardness.

"The continuation of the crisis for such a long time indicated that fatal mistakes were made by the Arab policy, despite repeated calls for solidarity and the need for making use of the new circumstances provided by the Palestinian uprising in dealing with the situation," *Al Rai Al Aam* said.

The paper pointed out that the slogan of Arab solidarity has always been raised in various stages of the joint Arab action. "Slogans alone cannot build nations and they must be coupled by realistic work based on absolute belief in our just causes and objectives."

The daily asserted that the on-going battles in Lebanon are not acceptable anymore "because present initiatives for resolving the crisis will not be realised by military means."

It hoped that the reported new efforts by the Arab League tripartite committee on Lebanon would succeed in reaching a minimum level of agreement among the Lebanese rival factions and other concerned parties to lessen the damage that had already hit the Arab image. (KUNA)

A Kuwaiti daily on Thursday affirmed that finding a solution to Lebanon is a Lebanese-Arab mission, and called for support to the Arab supreme tripartite committee's efforts to settle the Lebanese crisis.

*Al Rai Al Aam* daily said that Security Council and the American President's statements in addition to France's military will not stop the bloody fighting in Lebanon.

The paper cast doubts over the announcement of the US administration, in which it reaffirmed that there can be no military solution to Lebanon's problems.

The daily said this announcement lacks practical means or capabilities that it really used could end the tragedy in Lebanon.

The newspaper stressed that the situation in Lebanon cannot tolerate any more statements. It called for stopping support given to those parties involved in the fighting "to weaken their military capabilities and their morals," which in turn will make them "abandon their sectarian demands and political conditions." (KUNA)

A new stage of military escalation against the Israeli occupation troops in the Syrian Golan Heights will take place soon regardless of the repercussions, according to press reports in Dubai.

Daily *Al Bayan* quoted Syrian political sources in Damascus as saying that a Syrian decision was already taken in this regard and asserted that Damascus was prepared for all consequences including an all-out Israeli-Syrian confrontation.

The sources in this respect pointed out to recent statements by Syrian Defence Minister Gen. Mustafa Tlas to Kuwaiti daily *Al-Anba* on the possible return of commando raids across the occupied Golan Heights. Senior Israeli officials, responding Tlas' statements said that they would not allow such thing to happen and threatened that they will hit back. (KUNA)

The *New York Times* on Thursday lauded as "fair and sensible" a new, 10-point Egyptian peace plan meant to bridge differences between Israel and the PLO over Israel's "local Palestinian elections" scheme.

And the paper urged Israel to accept the Egyptian plan. In its lead editorial, the *Times* noted that prior to the Egyptian initiative two key obstacles — one from each side — blocked Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's "very general" plan:

— the PLO would be forbidden to participate in the process, but if that changed and it was allowed to join in, the PLO would refuse to withdraw a prior commitment to Palestinian statehood.

"The 10-point Egyptian plan sidesteps these obstacles," the *Times* argued.

As the PLO participation, "everyone knows that no Palestinian will step forward without PLO blessing."

Also the PLO's rights are protected under the plan, since it assures "complete freedom of expression for candidates, international monitoring of the voting, withdrawal of Israeli troops during the balloting and a degree of immunity from prosecution for those elected," the editorial pointed out.

On Palestinian statehood — which some analysts believe the plan's failure to mention will torpedo it regardless of any other desirable traits — the *Times* said,

"(The plan still) required Israel to begin talks on a final settlement on a date certain, and asks Israel to trade land for peace."

"Thus the PLO could argue that its goal of nationhood remains ultimately achievable."

For now, the paper warned about "discouraging background noise" from some Palestinian factions, citing renewed calls for "armed struggle" against Israel by the mainstream *Al Fatah* organisation. But while that sounded to the *Times* like "advocating terrorism," nothing of that sort "need prevent Mr Shamir from accepting the Egyptian plan in principle."

"If he does and the PLO says no, the blame will rightly fall on Yasser Arafat, its chairman. If he does and the PLO agrees, his own election idea can be given life," the editorial said.

It also said Shamir's "credibility" was on the line, since he appeared to let his own party salvage the plan when it was first announced.

The Israeli plan calls for talks over the terms for elections in the Arab lands Israel occupies, with those elected negotiating with Israel on "limited autonomy" for Palestinians. After an "interim period" this entity and Israel would tackle final settlement questions. (KUNA)

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1587 — Pope Sixtus V proclaims Catholic crusade for invasion of England.
- 1591 — Spanish fleet captures British warship *revenge* in action off Azores, and Sir Richard Grenville is mortally wounded.
- 1601 — Michael the Brave, Prince of Moldavia, is assassinated by Hungarian patriots.
- 1619 — Bohemia's Diet deposes King Ferdinand.
- 1691 — Louis of Baden defeats Turks at Salem Kamen, Bulgaria, and Mustafa Kluprili is killed in action.
- 1692 — A clergyman and five women convicted of witchcraft are executed in Salem, Massachusetts.
- 1796 — France and Spain sign alliance of San Ildefonso against Britain.
- 1856 — Austria, Prussia, France, Britain, Russia, Turkey and Sardinia decide to unite Moldavia with Wallachia.
- 1914 — British Navy torpedoes and damages German battleship *Westfalen* in North Sea, German fleet bombards English coast.
- 1934 — German plebiscite approves vesting of sole executive power in Adolf Hitler as Fuehrer.
- 1940 — Italian forces take British Somaliland from British forces in World War II.
- 1966 — More than 500 people perish in earthquake in eastern Turkey.
- 1971 — General Duong van Minh withdraws from presidential elections in South Vietnam, leaving President Nguyen van Thieu unopposed.
- 1979 — Pope John Paul II makes major diplomatic gesture by calling for resumption of ties between Vatican and China's Roman Catholics.
- 1986 — Car bomb explodes during morning rush hour at main square in central Tehran, killing 20 people.
- 1987 — Suspected Kurdish guerrillas kill 25 people in Turkey.
- 1988 — Hundreds of United Nations observers deploy along Iran-Iraq war front on eve of a ceasefire, the first step toward ending nearly eight years of bloodshed.

## Walesa questions liberalisation

# Probing limits of reform

SOLIDARITY leader Lech Walesa has posed the most important question yet about the political liberalisation sweeping Eastern Europe.

Is a ruling Communist Party, no matter how committed to reforms, genuinely ready to hand over control of the government to its opponents?

Immediately after non-Communist Polish members of Parliament approved him on Wednesday as a candidate for Prime Minister, Walesa cast doubt on whether he would in fact stand for office.

"I am not going to be Prime Minister because there are better candidates than me... I am only going to help in forming a government. The government is going to be formed under my leadership," Walesa told reporters.

But whether it is Walesa or another non-Communist who finally puts his name forward in a formal parliamentary vote, the Polish crisis has raised the question of just how much change a liberalising Eastern European government can tolerate.

The question applies not just to Poland, where Solidarity's immense public support has drained the party's morale for nine years, but to Hungary. Where the Communists have promised to yield power if they lose free elections next year.

It even has resonance in the Soviet Union, where communists in the Baltic republics of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia are under intense challenge from mass popular front movements and have been forced to swim with local nationalist tides.

Solidarity has 35 per cent of seats in parliament and 22 per cent are controlled by the United Peasants' Party (UPP) and the Democratic Party, the two small non-Communist groups with which Walesa wants to form a coalition.

In theory at least, the three groups could easily outvote the Communists, who have 38 per cent, and install their own candidate as Prime Minister.

That is not how the Communists see it. Since Walesa first proposed a non-Communist government on August 7 to replace the paralysed administration of Prime Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak, party leaders have repeatedly accused Walesa of breaking the terms of a reform pact agreed with Solidarity in April.

### Confine

Under that deal, Solidarity was to confine itself to the role of a loyal opposition, or at best a junior partner in government, while the Communists were to retain their leading role in Polish politics.

But the resolution approved by non-Communist deputies on Wednesday said: "We think a parliamentary coalition of the United Peasants' Party, the Democratic Party and Solidarity can form a government of national responsibility under the leadership of Lech Walesa."

Just hours before deputies passed that resolution, senior Communist Party officials were vowing not to allow a simple transfer of the reins of government to the opposition.

### Opposed

A devout Catholic opposed to violence, he always retained the unobtrusive support of Poland's Roman Catholic church. In 1983 he became the first Pole and the first industrial worker to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

The authorities summoned Walesa for talks amid a growing economic crisis and the second wave of pro-Solidarity strikes last summer. The Solidarity chairman sped across the country to persuade strikers to go back to work.

After months of negotiations with the government, Walesa led the opposition into reform talks and concluded an historic agreement last April allowing broad reforms.

Solidarity was re-legalised on April 17 and two months later crushed the communists in the first partly-free elections in 42 years. Walesa proposed the formation of a Solidarity government during talks with Jaruzelski.

He later proposed a coalition government excluding the communists, but softened his demands this week by making clear they could retain the interior and defence ministries.

Walesa, 45, emerged as a natural leader in the strikes of 1980. They gave rise to the Communist world's first independent trade union under a charter which was broken 15 months later when communist leader Wojciech Jaruzelski imposed martial law.

Walesa was interned for 11 months and dismissed by the authorities as the "former leader" of a non-existent union. But he never gave up campaign-



Lech Walesa: making a point.

"Every thinking man, especially a politician, should realise that we are not in a state of parliamentary democracy yet," said Slawomir Wiatr, a powerful secretary of the party's policy-making Central Committee.

"Having a majority in Parliament is not in itself a sufficient condition to exercise power," he added.

Party leader Mieczyslaw Rakowski, an architect of Poland's current reforms but never considered a true friend of Solidarity, declared: "The situation is dangerous, but now is not the time to raise up our hands in surrender."

Poland's Communists also must take account of concern in the Soviet Union. Soviet officials are

voicing anxiety over the crisis on their country's Western border.

Amid the complexities of Walesa's political manoeuvres, it is easy to lose sight of the fact that Kiszczak is still Prime Minister and has not yet explicitly said he will resign.

Nor have the Communists publicly retreated from their official line that the best solution to Poland's crisis is a "grand coalition" with themselves essentially still in charge.

Even President Wojciech Jaruzelski, a former party leader who now is supposed to speak for all Poland, has gone no further than to call for an urgent meeting of all political forces to discuss solutions to the crisis. (Reuter — Warsaw)

# Solidarity proposes, Poland disposes

LECH WALESA, proposed as Polish Prime Minister by Solidarity parliamentary deputies on Wednesday, personifies the struggle for freedom for millions of people in his homeland.

Consigned to the sidelines when the Communist authorities crushed his independent trade union Solidarity under martial law in 1981, the stocky, walrus-moustached electrician returned to the forefront of Polish politics only last summer.

But in a heady 12 months, Walesa has helped dampen the worst strikes since 1981, won Solidarity's re-legalisation at reform talks and led the opposition to a crushing victory over the Communists in partly-free parliamentary elections.

"There is no going back now," Walesa said this week. "We will not allow old methods of governing to return."

Walesa, 45, emerged as a natural leader in the strikes of 1980. They gave rise to the Communist world's first independent trade union under a charter which was broken 15 months later when communist leader Wojciech Jaruzelski imposed martial law.

Walesa was interned for 11 months and dismissed by the authorities as the "former leader" of a non-existent union. But he never gave up campaign-

ing for union freedoms, national reconciliation and sweeping changes in the Communist system.

A devout Catholic opposed to violence, he always retained the unobtrusive support of Poland's Roman Catholic church. In 1983 he became the first Pole and the first industrial worker to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

The authorities summoned Walesa for talks amid a growing economic crisis and the second wave of pro-Solidarity strikes last summer. The Solidarity chairman sped across the country to persuade strikers to go back to work.

After months of negotiations with the government, Walesa led the opposition into reform talks and concluded an historic agreement last April allowing broad reforms.

Solidarity was re-legalised on April 17 and two months later crushed the communists in the first partly-free elections in 42 years. Walesa proposed the formation of a Solidarity government during talks with Jaruzelski.

He later proposed a coalition government excluding the communists, but softened his demands this week by making clear they could retain the interior and defence ministries.

Walesa refused to run for a seat in parliament himself but was the driving force behind the opposition's campaign, tirelessly calling for political and trade union freedoms and the dismantling of the Stalinist economic apparatus.

A gifted spontaneous speaker, Walesa accused the Communists of making Poland "the sick man of Europe."

"The whole system is finished," he told Reuters. "The society has had it up to here and demands that something be done."

Walesa has said he does not want to become Prime Minister but, a fierce patriot, has hinted that he could be persuaded.

"I could be Prime Minister only if society requires it. This would be a kind of ultimate situation, a dangerous situation in the country," he told visiting US Congressmen on Wednesday.

Many people have seen Walesa as the embodiment of the struggle for freedom ever since he climbed over the fence of the Lenin shipyard in the Baltic city of Gdansk on August 14, 1980, to lead an occupation strike.

Seventeen days later the authorities granted the right to free trade unions and under Walesa's command Solidarity grew into an organisation which claimed 10 million members at its height.

TADEUSZ MAZOWIECKI, tipped to become Prime Minister in Poland's first government dominated by non-Communists since World War Two, is one of the closest advisers of Solidarity leader Lech Walesa.

The 62-year-old editor of the Solidarity weekly *Tygodnik Solidarnosc* led intellectuals who advised striking workers at Gdansk's Lenin shipyard in August 1980. The strike gave birth to the first free trade union in the Communist world.

A reserved and cautious Catholic writer, Mazowiecki was a top Solidarity negotiator at talks with the government last winter that paved the way for the opposition to enter Parliament.

He spent a year in jail after being interned when the authorities imposed martial law in December, 1981, sending Solidarity underground for more than seven years.

Unlike other leading union advisers, Mazowiecki did not run for parliament last June and instead reopened the weekly he had edited until the authorities banned it under martial law.

"The reappearance of *Tygodnik Solidarnosc* in the shops is the final proof for many Solidarity members that the Union finally exists normally," he told Reuters.

For 10 years in the 1960s Mazowiecki was an outspoken Parliamentary deputy for a small Catholic opposition group. He simultaneously edited a monthly, *Wiesc*, in which he published works by authors banned by the Communists.

The Communist authorities barred him from running for Parliament in 1972 after he tried in vain to set up an inquiry to investigate the December 1970 killings by the armed forces of dozens of striking Baltic coast workers.

In the late 1970s he helped organise the so-called "flying university" of leading academics who gave clandestine lectures and tuition outside the Communist-run education system. (Reuter — Warsaw)

# Deep divide behind exodus

## Turkish-Bulgarian differences persist

A DEEP divide separates Christian Bulgarians and ethnic Turkish Muslims that decades of investment, positive action programmes, assimilation and propaganda have failed to erase.

More than 275,000 ethnic Turks have fled from Bulgaria to Turkey since early June to escape Sofia's campaign to assimilate them. But many villagers who stayed behind said they were unaware of the exodus plans until the flood began.

"None of us had any idea they had such plans. We just woke up one morning and they were going," said Bulgarian grandmother Rada Stoyanova in the virtually deserted ethnic Turkish village of Boulair.

In the eastern Bulgarian village of Jebel, where townspeople showed a mosque with a locked gate, blank stones in the cemetery marked graves where nobody dared write the Turkish names because of pressure from the authorities or in Bulgarian because of ethnic Turkish feelings.

### Militant

"We'll get beaten after you've gone," said Islamic fundamentalist Hikmet Ahmetov, showing a foot he said was crippled by beatings received when he protested the name chosen for him in 1985: Christo. In Boulair, Stoyanova said many of her old acquaintances were crying as they left, and many ethnic Turks say the mass exodus was not pure chance.

"There were young militant men who came to the houses and said, you come too," said Emilia Ivan-

ova, the only ethnic Turk who decided to stay in Boulair, from which 55 Turkish families left and only five Bulgarian households remain.

"People couldn't argue, especially if the rest of their family was going. Some people looked poisonously at me, but others gave me quiet support," Ivanova said.

Ethnic Turks said the local militants organised a series of hunger strikes and demonstrations in May in which diplomats say between 10 and 30 people were killed. Turkey says 60 died.

The unrest was intended to attract attention ahead of a Paris human rights conference and coincided with a new law offering travel passports to all in Soviet-bloc Bulgaria, where foreign travel is still rare.

The subsequent desertion of scores of villages and whole quarters of towns was also helped on by rivalry between Ankara and Sofia and, ironically, liberalisation in Bulgaria and an easing of East-West tension.

Bulgaria this week rejected NATO charges that it was operating policies of forced assimilation and repression against ethnic Turks. NATO said this was a flagrant violation of human rights and breached European human rights accords.

A Bulgarian government statement published by the official news agency BTA said: "In Bulgaria no one is persecuted because of their religion. Nobody deports or expatriates forcibly the Bulgarian

Muslim citizens or any other Bulgarian citizens."

Bulgaria charges neighbouring Turkey with stoking up the unrest with television and radio transmissions, but only a few ethnic Turks said they believed Turkey had "called them home."

But the militants, many hardened by jail terms for resisting Bulgaria's internationally-condemned assimilation campaign of 1984-85, apparently had fertile ground to work on.

"Turkish is still banned in public, we can't use our names, we can't circumcise our children, we can't celebrate religious feasts. There is always pressure," said an ethnic Turk in the eastern town of Haskovo.

### Allowed

"My sons are not allowed out because they have military service, otherwise I would have just gone with the rest of my family," he said, pointing to his own four-storey apartment building that he would abandon behind him.

The few ethnic Turks who have been assimilated in major cities, mainly the better educated, say that they generally do not want to leave.

Clearly unused to speaking Turkish, a Turkish Muslim girl in the tourist resort of Kamtschiya said she liked to go out every night and was financially independent of her parents.

The Muslim-Christian divide is most visible in the villages where the great majority of the ethnic Turkish population lives and some women, even factory workers, cannot speak Bulgarian. (Reuter: Jebel)

## Human chain

# Baltics mark 50 years of Soviet rule

DEMONSTRATIONS, including the forming of a human chain 600 km (370 miles) long, will take place in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania next week to mark the 50th anniversary of what many Baltic people see as one of the darkest days in their history.

A series of secret Nazi-Soviet deals starting on August 23, 1939, which carved Eastern Europe into spheres of influence, have long been known to Western historians who say they led directly to the Soviet annexation of the three Baltic states in 1940.

But within the Soviet Union itself their existence has become a highly explosive issue in recent months with Baltic nationalists forcing the Kremlin gradually to abandon its traditional line of denying the "secret protocols" ever existed.

Leaders of the radical popular fronts of the three republics say they hope hundreds of thousands of people will turn out for officially sanctioned meetings on August 23 to back demands for a return to the independence they say the secret deal ended.

"We only want one thing — the simple historical truth," said Virgilius Cepaitis, a leader of Lithuania's Sajudis, a powerful popular front movement which won an overwhelming majority of seats in March elections to the Soviet parliament.

"We want them to accept that we were occupied and annexed as a result of the (Nazi-Soviet) pact. If that is accepted, then we have the right now to decide our own destiny, that is independence in the form or way the Lithuanian people want."

### Commitment

Despite Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's commitment to fill in the blank spots of history, the Soviet leadership, fearful of upsetting the country's delicate national balance, has moved only cautiously towards acknowledging the pact.

Under pressure from Baltic deputies, a parliamentary commission was set up to look into the protocols — part of the Non-aggression Pact signed in Moscow 50 years ago by Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov and his German counterpart Joachim von Ribbentrop.

It came up with a provisional report in mid-July which, according to Endel Lippmaa, an Estonian scientist and commission member, made three points:

— The protocols, one from August 23, 1939, two from September 28, 1939 and one from January 10, 1941, assigning the three Baltic republics, together with parts of Poland and Romania to the Soviet Union's sphere of influence, were genuine.

— All the secret protocols are in conflict with public treaties concluded with the governments of independent Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in the 1920s and 1930s.

— The secret protocols were enacted by the threat of force and so should be declared null and void from the moment of signing.

However, mere acknowledgement of the existence of the pact goes only a small way towards explaining the chain of events which led to the end of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania's 20 brief years of independence.

Legally speaking, this came not as a result of the pact, but rather of votes by newly-elected parliaments in all three states in July 1940 — after the Red Army had moved in — "requesting" to join the Soviet Union as Soviet socialist republics.

Apparently worried about undermining the legitimacy of their continued membership of the Soviet Union, the Kremlin has so far made no attempt to challenge this official version and analysts do not expect even the final report to do so.

The official Soviet news agency Novosti, in a commentary released on August 15, said it was "illogical and simplistic" to say the republics were annexed as a result of the protocols.

In a clear attempt to show it was the parliamentary vote and not the protocols that were decisive, the Communist Party daily *Pravda* last month published without comment facsimile copies of the parliaments' "request."

Moscow also show no sign of accepting Western accounts that the July 1940 parliamentary elections — which gave Communists between 92.9 and 99.2 per cent of the vote — were rigged and carried out under Soviet military pressure.

While the legal and historical debate continues, preparations and entering the final stages in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania for a series of highly-publicised events marking the anniversary.

The high point will be a human chain, involving upwards of 600,000 people, linking the capitals of all three republics, which organisers from Sajudis and the Estonian and Latvian popular fronts say will be the biggest of its kind ever staged.

"We need about 200,000 for each republic but I think that we will get some more," Cepaitis said. (Reuter — Vilnius)

# Quote me

"The White House leaves the hostages to rot in Lebanon so that America can use them as a bridge to reach its own ends." — Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Iranian authorities will "punch America in the face and they will kick America out of the Middle East" — Ahmad Khomeini

"Feeding my kids does not mean I love Israel" — Sabir Abu Saban, Gaza worker and a father of 10 who continues to work in Israel despite the call by Palestinians to strike.

"When the ceasefire was announced, people overreacted. They assumed everything would happen overnight. Warehouses are still overstocked," said a Western shipping source in Kuwait about Iran and Iraq ceasefire.

"If there is work waiting to be done, it is religiously right to read newspapers or even the Quran at the office." — Iran's top judge Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi said on Tehran Radio.

"They thought I was dead so they dug a grave and buried me in it." — the newspaper *Al Riyadh* quoted Al Shabani, a man who woke up from the grave as saying.



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Mild boost for Gulf economies

KUWAIT, Aug 18, (Reuters): Gulf economies are reaping some fruits of peace one year after the Iran-Iraq ceasefire but the boom predicted by many has failed to materialise.

It was widely believed at the time that the ceasefire last Aug 20 would unleash a blitz of reconstruction, lifting the Gulf out of a five-year recession caused by a plunge in oil prices.

But inertia and lack of foreign exchange have slowed the engines of both Iraq and Iran, leaving many Gulf merchants and bankers high and dry.

"When the ceasefire was announced, people overreacted. They assumed everything would happen overnight. Warehouses are still overstocked," said a

Western shipping source in Kuwait.

Despite the slow start, bankers and shipping operators say the region's economies are finally getting a mild boost.

Bankers said renewed confidence had sparked a small inflow of new investment and a return of capital. There are also signs that reconstruction material is now beginning to pass through local ports.

Kuwait, the port thought best-placed to take advantage of the reconstruction of Iraq's shattered southern cities, saw significant amount of Iraq-bound bulk cargo beginning in April, shipping operators said.

The recent cargo has mainly been wheat plus pipes for the Basra oil refinery. But the shipping sources predict a

steady increase in cement, pipes, steel, and grain followed by consumer goods.

"The Iraqis have a huge pent-up demand for consumer goods after eight years of wartime economy," one shipper said.

The result will be a mini-boom in transshipment until Iraq can get its own ports up and running, the shipping operators said.

Although Iraq mainly uses Aqaba in Jordan and Mersin in Turkey for imports, it has depended on Kuwait for supplies for major construction sites at Basra and Faw in the south and for imports from the Far East.

Bankers say the volume of re-exports

from Kuwait will depend on Baghdad's ability to sell oil to raise foreign exchange. In view of Iraq's war-time debt of around \$80 to 90 million few banks are willing to extend new credit.

Because of Iraqi delays in repaying its debts, banks have been charging an extraordinary 20 per cent to confirm a letter of credit for imports.

Bankers say Iraqi officials have been promising to have their commercial bank debt — far less than half the total — paid off by 1993, with only letters of credit and government loans left.

Dubai, the port thought most suited to take advantage of Iranian reconstruction, has been less fortunate than

Kuwait, with a sharp decline in trade during the last year of the war.

Iranian re-export trade through Dubai dropped by half last year to 691.7 million dirhams from 1.31 billion in 1987, official figures show. Local merchants say trade is still well below average.

The dramatic fall in trade was caused by Iran's lack of foreign exchange and domestic political upheavals that delayed formation of a coherent economic policy.

Most hoteliers in Dubai, a major service centre for the area, report accommodation rates at over 90 per cent. Ship repair yards have made up for lost war-related business as ships venture back into the Gulf.

## Ghandour awarded Airline chief quits

AMMAN, Jordan, Aug 18, (AP): Ali Ghandour, the long-time head of Jordan's national airline, has resigned his post and taken up a job as adviser on tourism and civil aviation, the official Jordan news agency reported today.

There was no immediate word of Ghandour's replacement as chairman of Royal Jordanian.

Ghandour, a 58-year-old native of Lebanon, has been a major figure in the airline since helping to organise its creation in 1962. He became chairman in 1974.

Ghandour also is a close friend of King Hussein, an avid pilot.

The news agency, Petra, said the King awarded Ghandour the highest royal award, the Al-Nahdha medal first degree, for his "honesty and as a symbol of his appreciation."

"The Royal Jordanian has exhausted your efforts, nerves, brain and heart until it became the symbol of our national pride," Hussein wrote in his letter accepting Ghandour's resignation.

Ghandour studied engineering at New York University, then worked for the Lebanese Civil Aviation before coming to Jordan.

## Gulf to discuss aid to Amman

AMMAN, Aug 18, (Reuters): Kuwait will ask for a meeting of central bank governors of Gulf countries to agree on the size of an interest-free deposit they plan to post at Jordan's Central Bank, Jordan's Prime Minister said today.

Sharif Zaid Bin Shaker, in an interview with state-run Jordan Television, said the governors would decide on the deposit which their countries plan to make to support Jordan's economy.

Jordanian officials have said the deposit for the deposit would be between \$500 million and \$1 billion.

They said the money would be placed with other banks and its interest used to swell Jordan's foreign exchange funds which Bin Shaker said stood at \$400 million now, up from around \$20 million in May.

Several Gulf countries moved to help Jordan after the country was affected by price rises in April.

Bin Shaker said the aid would be \$200 million in aid and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) \$70 million. Since April, Kuwait has given \$80 million, half in cash and half in crude oil, and Oman offered \$20 million and plans to send another \$10 million soon, officials said.

Official sources said Iraq has promised to pay Jordan \$15 million a month as part of repayment on Baghdad's more than \$450 million debt to Amman.

Jordanian officials told Reuters earlier this month Amman hoped oil-producing states would continue to provide Amman with two types of help — regular aid and an interest-free deposit — over the next four years.

During this time Amman is to carry out an economic reform plan it reached with the International Monetary Fund in April.

Bin Shaker said after returning from a visit to Kuwait and Qatar on August 10 that the members of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) had pledged to help Jordan overcome the economic assistance. The other countries are Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Oman and Bahrain.

## OPEC oil income dips

ABU DHABI, Aug 18, (OPECNA): Total oil revenues of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) fell to \$60.2 billion last year, according to a study by the Paris-based "Arab Petroleum and Gas" magazine.

It said the 1988 figure represented a 4.1 per cent decline over the \$101.7 billion recorded in 1984. However, crude output rose from 10.7 million BPD last year, an increase of 28.7 per cent.

This, it pointed out, explained the deterioration in Arab investments, budgets and balance of payments as well as the suspension of several development projects.

OPEC member countries' budgets suffered a total deficit of \$24 billion last year, despite a reduction in spending to \$1.2 billion, compared with \$1.7 billion in 1984.

Indian rupee	18.040
Sri Lankan rupee	8.390
Pakistani rupee	14.290
Bangladesh taka	9.170
US dollar	298.65
Pound sterling	472.75
Deutsche mark	154.40
UAE dirham	0.8135
Japanese yen	0.02118

## ACC chambers to discuss industrial ties

# Arab investment in Egypt shot up

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Aug 18, (Agencies): Egypt attracted most private Arab investment last year, according to a report issued by the Arab Investment Guarantee Organisation, the Emirates News Agency (WAM) said yesterday.

The report estimated the total value of inter-Arab investments at \$232.43 million and said Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria and the United Arab Emirates followed as leading markets for such investment.

The report said Arab investments in Egypt shot up by 63.7 per cent in 1988 over 1987, but did not say how much money that represented, according to the agency.

The increase apparently resulted from Egypt's reinstatement in the Arab fold that year after a decade of isolation by most of the Arab world because of its 1979 treaty with Israel.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE and Oman.

The UAE where the organisation is based, was the only country for which a precise investment figure was given \$15.59 million.

The report indicated that Arab investors favoured the banking sector which attracted 39.6 per cent of the total, followed by industry with 26.7 per cent, trade, construction and services with 13.6 per cent, tourism and real estate 12.3 per cent and agriculture, animal wealth and fishing with 7.9 per cent.

It also said that the leading source of investment was the 6-nation Gulf Co-operation Council which accounted for 43 per cent of the total, followed by Iraq and Levant countries which would include Syria and Lebanon.

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the UAE and Oman.

The six member countries of the Gulf Co-operation Council

(GCC) made investments worth \$999.8 million last year, the highest among inter-Arab dealings, it has been reported in Abu Dhabi.

The report issued by the Arab Organisation for Guaranteeing Investments said the GCC's 42 per cent of total Arab investments was followed by Iraq and Syria with a total of \$72.1 million, accounting for 31 per cent.

Inter-Arab investments during the year surged 20.14 per cent. The United Arab Emirates ranked fifth among Arab countries receiving Arab investments, while Egypt topped the list for increasing volume with a rise of 63.7 per cent.

Finance and banking took the most Arab investments, reaching \$92 million in value, followed by the industrial sector with 62 million and trade, contracting and services with 31.7 million.

An Arab economist has called

for boosting inter-Arab trade and utilisation of production facilities in each country in order to achieve Arab economic integration.

Dr Ahmed Ridha, a researcher at Abu Dhabi's Trade and Industry Chamber, in a study published in Abu Dhabi, called for the establishment of a marketing association in Arab Gulf countries to promote marketing capabilities and other economic activities.

The study suggested exploitation of Arab production surplus among Arab countries to replace foreign goods of the same quality.

Meanwhile, a meeting of industrial chambers from the four-member Arab Co-operation Council — Iraq, Egypt, Jordan and North Yemen — will be held in Alexandria later this month, it was reported yesterday.

## Inter-OPEC contacts under way

### Move to align ranks ahead of meeting

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia, Aug 18, (AP): A senior official of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries was quoted yesterday as saying contacts were under way among the 13 member states to align ranks ahead of the ministerial session next month.

An unidentified official at OPEC's Vienna headquarters told the Saudi Arabian newspaper Al-Sharq Al-Awsat that the contacts were aimed at "easing the edge of arguments among members" at the OPEC committee in charge of long-term strategy and market followup which is scheduled for Sept 22 in Geneva.

The committee is meeting to consider whether the production and pricing policy laid by the OPEC ministerial council for the July-December period remains suited to help balance supply and demand in quest of a stable price in the range of \$18 a barrel.

The council agreed on an aggregate production ceiling of 19.5 million barrels per day as of July 1 toward that objective, but inter-OPEC wrangling has not ceased because of dissatisfaction by some OPEC members with their individual quotas along with persistent cheating by some.

Prices weakened over the past weeks as a result but have just started upward in the range of \$17 a barrel.

Estimating current OPEC output at 21.8 million barrels per day, the official expected the Geneva committee to propose raising the OPEC ceiling by "about a million barrels per day."

The OPEC official said that the current contacts were expected to lead to "a new spirit and convenient discussions" for OPEC to confront the challenge of a reported possible collapse in the prices at the September

meeting.

He expected "at least relative discipline" by the member states who were overshooting their OPEC quotas, but he did not name any.

He also argued that it would be difficult for oil prices to deteriorate since the winter season would ensure higher demand.

"All this will give a new boost to the prices and improve the performance of the market for OPEC," he said.

Ending a short rally, sellers returned in force yesterday to drive prices down on the New York Mercantile Exchange after crude failed to stay above the \$19-a-barrel level.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, West Texas Intermediate, the benchmark US crude for September delivery — lost 29 cents to end the day at \$18.68 a barrel.

## IMF team to visit Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Aug 18: A high-powered delegation of International Monetary Fund (IMF) is arriving here on Aug 28 to monitor the implementation of the \$823 million, three-year economic reforms agreement signed with Pakistan on Nov 15, 1988 under structural adjustment facility, it was reliably learnt here on Wednesday.

According to the sources, the fund's officials, during their week-long visit to Islamabad, would study the progress made so far, with regard to the implementation of fund's conditionalities during the second year, related to reforms, exchange rate reforms, control over monetary expansion and drastic cut in non-development expenditures.

Dawn quoted as saying some of the conditionalities relating to bringing down budget deficit from 8 to six per cent, were duly incorporated in the budget for 1989-90.

Since the PPP government has already initiated an austerity drive in all the sectors of the economy, the IMF team is expected to announce the release of last installment of over \$200 million to Pakistan.

Earlier sources confirmed that the amount of over \$500 million dollars of the three package has already been provided to the Government of Pakistan.

Sources revealed that the IMF has also recently released additional disbursement of 1.7 million special drawing rights (SDRs) from a supplementary financing facility subsidy account.

Meanwhile, it was also learnt that Pakistan has secured a commercial loan worth \$100 million from a consortium of banks.



British Airways passengers sleep while they wait for their flight yesterday. Many flights were cancelled or delayed after cabin crews took industrial action after one of their colleagues, Lynn Hooper, was dismissed. The strike action is for an initial 24-hour period. (Reuters wirephoto)

## KD deposit rates firm

KUWAIT, Aug 18, (Reuters): Kuwaiti deposit rates were firm yesterday but little trade was reported after the Central Bank opened its discount to buy back treasury bills.

Dealers said the Central Bank had offered to buy bills on Wednesday and Thursday at 7-12 per cent. It also offered to repurchase treasury bills overnight at rates of 7-3/4.

As a result banks said they were sitting on the sidelines in the expectation rates would fall in the coming week.

Trades were only reported in overnight, which was quoted at 8-7/8 3/4 from 8-3/4 3/8. Three months to one year climbed to 8-7/8 3/4 from 8-3/4 1/2.

The Central Bank adjusted its dollar to dirham exchange rate to 0.29833/43 from 0.29802/12 on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal inter-bank deposits continued to display a softer tone on Thursday as operators watch US dollar rates.

## Dollar dips

### Gold higher

LONDON, Aug 18, (Reuters): The dollar dipped to a lower close in Europe today as investors took their profits from the previous day's surge, dealers said.

Share markets were mostly quiet although London and Milan both climbed to fresh 1989 closing highs.

The foreign exchange market took little notice of news that the US consumer price index rose by 0.2 per cent in July, in line with projections.

"The figures gave us no new directions," one dealer in Frankfurt said.

The dollar closed in London at 1.9585 West German marks and 142.85 Japanese yen. On Thursday it had jumped around 2-1/2 pence and nearly two yen to finish at 1.9680 and 143.95 following a sharp contraction in the US trade deficit in June.

Italian shares rose to a record closing high in Milan with the MIB index up 1.69 per cent over the week to 1,203.

Most of the rise on the London Stock Market was due to a one-third jump in the value of shares in Wellcome PLC following a favourable US study on its AZT drug to treat AIDS patients.

The Financial Times-Stock Exchange index of 100 leading shares gave up some of its early gains on a weak start on Wall Street. But it ended 15.1 points up at 2,375.1 compared with a previous 1989 high, set on August 9, of 2,360.4.

The Dow Jones industrial average had picked up by noon in New York to stand 5.50 points higher at 2,685.13.

Johannesburg's All-Share index rose 23 points to a record closing high of 2,811, surpassing the previous peak of 2,804 scaled just before the October 1987 world stock markets crash.

The rise was spurred by renewed, albeit modest, demand for select in a thin pre-weekend market, dealers said.

Earlier in Tokyo, the Nikkei Average ended a two-day run of all-time closing highs by dropping 26.97 points in thin trade to close at 35,063.14.

Gold bullion prices ended little changed in quiet London trade at \$365.75 an ounce after 365.25 on Thursday.

Other late rates Friday for the dollar in Europe, compared with Thursday's late rates:

— 1.9555 West German marks, down from 1.9690  
— 1.6860 Swiss francs, down from 1.6980  
— 6.5945 French francs, down from 6.6325  
— 2.2080 Dutch guilders, down from 2.2190  
— 1.405.75 Italian lire, down from 1,412.00  
— 1.1787 Canadian dollars, down from 1.1815

Gold prices were higher but traders reported little interest and said they saw no prospect of improvement beyond a dollar or two.

Gold closed in London, the major market, at \$366.65 bid a troy ounce, up from 366.35. The Zurich closing price was a bid \$366.75, up from 366.25.

Earlier in Hong Kong, gold closed at \$366.50 bid, up from 366.45. Silver bullion traded late in London at \$5.25 a troy ounce, up from 5.20.

## Iran expected to face big problems from free rial market

DUBAI, Aug 18, (Reuters): Dubai's unofficial foreign exchange market for the Iranian rial predicted big problems for Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani who was sworn in yesterday.

Dealers and traders in the sensitive market in the port of Dubai just across the Gulf from Iran have sent the rial back down to levels seen only during war or domestic upheaval.

"They are saying they are not convinced that Rafsanjani will succeed," said one trader.

The rial was traded in Dubai at between 1,300 to 1,400 to the dollar, nearly 19 times the official rate and close to its low of over

1,500 during Iran's eight-year war with Iraq.

Rafsanjani, seen by many political analysts as the most moderate Iranian leader for 10 years, has promised economic reconstruction and a more positive foreign policy.

But Iranian economists say he has an awesome task.

Iran has crippling energy shortages, industries operate at a quarter of their capacity, 90 per cent of the country's hard currency earnings come from sales of oil and the currency blackmarket distorts all economic activity, they said.

Western political analysts are waiting to see how he deals with a possible threat to

his policies from other Iranian leaders who wish to preserve the strict Islamic rule of the late leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

In Dubai, thousands of Iranian merchants who trade with Iran daily reflect the most up-to-date sentiment within their native country through the local market's exchange rate.

Immediately after the August 20 ceasefire with Iraq last year, Dubai's market traded the rial up to 600 to the dollar.

But in the next few months, while some Western economists and businessmen still hoped for a post-war boom, Dubai's market expressed its pessimism by forcing the rial back below 1,000.

Dubai's market wrote down the rial as low as 1,400 but when Rafsanjani emerged as presidential candidate, it pushed it back up to around 1,100 to the dollar.

When Rafsanjani won the presidential elections on July 28 the market sent the rial sliding again while Western analysts talked in bullish terms of his pragmatism and moderation.

Dealers estimate market turnover is around 500 million rials a day or equivalent to about \$350,000 at current rates.

But at the official rate of around 72 rials to the dollar, it is about \$2.5 billion a year, twice Iran's annual earnings from non-oil exports, according to official figures.



LONDON  
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	409/0
ABBEY NAT	148.0	
ADT LTD	195.0	
ALD LYONS	540.0	
AMSTRAD	75.0	
ARGYLL GP	263.0	
ASDA GP	201.0	
BAA	355.0	
BTR	485.0	
BAT INDS	815.0	
BARCLAYS	524.0	
BASS	116.0	
BEAZER	179.0	
BERISFORD	160.0	
BET ORD	313.0	
BICC PLC	542.0	
BLUE ARRY	111.0	
BLUM CIRC	267.0	
BOC GP	535.0	
BOOTS CO	295.0	
BPF INDS	251.0	
BR CONM	184.0	
BR AIRWAY	199.0	
BR AEROSP	712.0	
BR GAS RG	210.0	
BR LAND	385.0	
B.P.	294.0	
BR STEEL	77.0	
BR TELCOM	255.0	
BUNZL	153.0	
BURMAN OL	660.0	
BURTON	242.0	
CABLESWIR	553.0	
CADBURYS	410.0	
CALOR GRP	438.0	
CRLTN CO	855.0	
CRLTN R.T.	850.0	
COCKSONS	376.0	
COURTAULD	378.0	
DALGETY	418.0	
DIXONS	167.0	
ENG CHINA	490.0	
ENTER OIL	470.0	
FKI BARCK	127.0	
FERRANTI	81.0	
FISONS	343.0	
GATEWAY	240.0	
GEN ACCIO	008.0	
GEN ELEC	276.0	
GLAXO	530.0	
GRANADA	374.0	
GLOBE	198.0	
GLYNED	314.0	
GKNL	473.0	
GUINNESS	503.0	
HMMERSA A	802.0	
HANSON	232.0	
HANSON W	55.0	
HARTBRO	170.0	
HUKER SID	770.0	
HILLSDOWN	311.0	
INCHCAPE	293.0	

LONDON  
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	035/0	034/0
600 GROUP	133/0	134/0
A.AMER TS	501/0	501/0
A.B.ELECT	401/0	401/0
A.S.W.HLD	282/0	282/0
AAR KENT	131/0	131/0
AAR HLD	407/0	408/0
AARONSON	02/0	02/0
ADVEST	38.5	39.0
ALEX WRW	227/0	229/0
ALEXON	405/0	405/0
ALLO COLL	171/4	172/0
ALLO IR B	170/0	168/0
ALLO LON	150/0	150/0
ALLO PART	75/4	76/0
ALLO TST	383/0	383/0
ALLIANCE	169/0	168/0
AMBER DAY	66/2	67/0
AMEC	472/0	471/0
AMER TST	170/4	171/0
AMERSTAN	454/0	455/0
AMT HLTHC	418/0	417/0
ANGLIA SEC	156/0	158/0
ANGLIA TV	303/0	302/0
ANSBACHER	75/0	76/0
APLEYARD	164/0	165/0
APV PLC	142/0	142/0
ASHLEY.LA	97/0	96/0
ATTWOODS	490/0	491/0
AUST REED	403/0	405/0
AUTO SECS	281/0	281/0
AUSTO	146/0	146/0
AVIS EUR	573.0	575.0
AVON RUBB	555/0	555/0
B. WEMHILL	279/0	281/0
BARCOCO	65/4	65/0
BAILL JAP	605/0	605/0
BAILL SHI	103/4	103/0
BAIRD (W)	240/0	241/0
BAL TIC	163/0	164/0
BANK IRE	238/0	235/0
BANKER IT	100/0	100/0
BARON GP	203/0	205/0
BARRY DEV	179/0	178/0
BAVNES C	35/0	35/0
BBA GROUP	217/0	217/0
BEAR BRWD	11/6	11/6
BEATTIE J	142/0	142/0
BELHAVEN	53/0	54/0
BELLWAY	196/0	196/0
BENLOX HD	58/0	58/0
BERKELEY	192/0	192/0
BH GROUP	143/0	143/0
BK OF CO	109/0	109/0
BLK LE 2	8.8	8.5
BN GROUP	529/0	528/0
BNNETT +F	182/0	183/0
BODDINGTON	464/0	465/0

## NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
ATMATIC R	102/2	102/2
AAR CORP	32/2	32/3
ABBOTT LAB	63/3	63/3
ACME CLVD	11/1	11/2
ADV MICRO	8/3	8/3
AETNA LIFE	58/6	58/7
AMERSON	22/1	22/2
AIR PR-CHN	46/1	47/0
ALASKA AIR	28/4	28/4
ALBERTSONS	51/2	51/2
ALBMA 8-16	0	0
ALCAN ALUM	23/5	23/5
ALCO STAND	34/0	34/2
AM CAP SEC	22/1	22/1
AM CYNAMID	58/0	58/1
AM FAMILY	16/6	16/7
AM HOM PRO	100/3	100/0
AM STORES	70/0	70/2
AM TEL-TEL	39/2	39/3
AMAX INC	27/7	27/8
AMOCO CORP	46/2	46/2
AMP INC	45/0	45/1
AMPCO PITT	0	0
AMR CORP	76/0	75/3
AMR GEN CO	37/4	37/6
AMERADA HE	38/1	38/2
ANTHEM ELE	11/7	11/5
APACHE CP	14/3	14/3
APAL 8-12	0	0
ARMSTRONG	47/0	47/2
ASHLAND OIL	38/2	38/0
ASIA PACIF	12/4	12/6
ATLIS CORP	17/6	17/7
AVERY INT	26/4	26/5
AVNET INC	24/2	24/2
AVON PRODS	36/6	36/7
BELLSOUTH	50/3	50/4
BELO CP A	0	0
BEVERLY	8/6	8/7
BLA-DECKER	23/0	23/0
BK BOSTON	28/2	28/2
BK BOSTN-A	0	0
BK N-YORK	51/7	51/7
BK TR-NY	51/5	51/5
BKAMERICA	30/6	31/0
BKAM SPEC	6/0	6/0
BOEING CO	52/7	53/0
BOISE CAS	45/5	45/4
BND IN GLD	7/7	7/7
BORDEN	72/0	72/2
BOATWER	29/6	29/7
BR TELECOM	41/5	40/7
BRIGGS-STR	28/2	28/1
BRIST-MYER	47/7	47/6
BRUNSWICK	16/6	17/0
C 3 INC	0	0
C HUD G-EL	23/0	23/0
CABOT CORP	39/6	39/6
CAESARS WD	38/6	38/6
CA FREIGHT	23/6	23/6
CAS NAT GS	0	0
CATERPI TR	60/0	60/2
CBI IND	32/6	32/6
CBS	210/4	209/2
CENEL CP	54/4	54/7
CHAMP INTL	35/6	35/6
CHARTER CO	4/3	4/4
CHASE MAN	38/4	38/4
CHENED CP	38/1	38/2
CHENIC BK	37/3	37/6
CHEVRON	54/5	54/6
CHIC MILK	605/45	605/25
CHRYSLER	25/0	25/1
CHUBB CORP	76/1	76/1
CHUR FR CH	5/6	5/5
CIGNA CORP	60/7	60/7
CIN MILACR	20/1	20/3
CIR CIT ST	24/4	22/4
CIRCLE K	10/5	10/5
CITICORP	31/5	32/0
CLARK EQUI	40/7	40/7
CLOREX	42/6	43/0
COMBLL RES	12	12
COMBLL SP	53/2	53/4
COM PACIFIC	22/2	22/2
COACHMEN	8/4	8/4
COASTAL	43/0	43/0
COCA-COLA	66/1	66/3
COLECO	*13	*14
COLEMAN CO	57/3	57/5
COLLE-PALM	46/6	46/6
COLLINS GAS	33/5	33/7
CON PSY CE	37/4	37/6
CON EDISON	37/3	37/4
CONAGRA	26/0	26/2
CONTINENTAL	37/2	37/1
CONTL ILLN	*03	*02
CONTEL CP	62/0	62/5
CONTR DATA	19/3	19/1
CONS RAIL	38/2	38/3
COOPER T-R	36/2	36/2
COOPER COM	2/7	2/7
CORNING INC	41/2	41/2
CRAY RES	44/2	44/3
CULLINET	7/6	7/6
DANA CORP	41/6	41/6
DANIEL IND	12/6	12/7
DATA GEN	15/4	15/4
DAYTON HUD	62/3	62/6
DEC	99/2	100/0
DEERE CO	60/7	61/0
DELTA AIR	75/2	75/2
DIAMOND SH	20/3	20/3
DIEBOLD	41/1	41/2
DISNEY W	13/0	13/3
DOVER CORP	36/4	36/4
DOW CHEMIC	99/5	99/6
DOW JONES	39/1	39/2
DRESSER IN	42/6	43/0
DREYFUS	30/7	30/6
DUN BRAD	50/3	50/4
DUPONT	117/4	117/5
DUQUESNE	0	0
DYNAMICS	0	0
E SYSTEMS	33/0	33/2
EAGLE PICH	13/0	13/0
EASTERN EM	30/6	30/6
EMERSON EL	37/0	37/1
EMERSON RA	6/3	6/4
ETHYL CP	26/7	27/1
EXXON	43/5	43/6
FAM DOL ST	12/5	12/5
FED NAT HD	98/5	98/7
FELDMOOR	28/4	28/5
FLEETWOOD	28/5	28/6
FLENNING CO	34/7	34/5
FMC CORP	46/4	46/4
FORD MOTOR	51/1	51/0
FOSTER WIL	19/3	19/4
FRCHLD INC	0	0
FREE MC OG	5/3	5/3
FST BANK	26/2	26/2
FST CHICAG	47/3	47/6
FST INTERS	63/7	64/0
FST MISSIP	17/2	17/3
GAMNET CO	46/2	46/2
GAP STORES	46/0	46/2
GALVESTON	2/2	2/2
GATX CORP	66/0	66/1
GEN DATA	5/6	5/5
GEN DYNMS	59/1	59/1

## NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
ATMATIC R	102/2	102/2
AAR CORP	32/2	32/3
ABBOTT LAB	63/3	63/3
ACME CLVD	11/1	11/2
ADV MICRO	8/3	8/3
AETNA LIFE	58/6	58/7
AMERSON	22/1	22/2
AIR PR-CHN	46/1	47/0
ALASKA AIR	28/4	28/4
ALBERTSONS	51/2	51/2
ALBMA 8-16	0	0
ALCAN ALUM	23/5	23/5
ALCO STAND	34/0	34/2
AM CAP SEC	22/1	22/1
AM CYNAMID	58/0	58/1
AM FAMILY	16/6	16/7
AM HOM PRO	100/3	100/0
AM STORES	70/0	70/2
AM TEL-TEL	39/2	39/3
AMAX INC	27/7	27/8
AMOCO CORP	46/2	46/2
AMP INC	45/0	45/1
AMPCO PITT	0	0
AMR CORP	76/0	75/3
AMR GEN CO	37/4	37/6
AMERADA HE	38/1	38/2
ANTHEM ELE	11/7	11/5
APACHE CP	14/3	14/3
APAL 8-12	0	0
ARMSTRONG	47/0	47/2
ASHLAND OIL	38/2	38/0
ASIA PACIF	12/4	12/6
ATLIS CORP	17/6	17/7
AVERY INT	26/4	26/5
AVNET INC	24/2	24/2
AVON PRODS	36/6	36/7
BELLSOUTH	50/3	50/4
BELO CP A	0	0
BEVERLY	8/6	8/7
BLA-DECKER	23/0	23/0
BK BOSTON	28/2	28/2
BK BOSTN-A	0	0
BK N-YORK	51/7	51/7
BK TR-NY	51/5	51/5
BKAMERICA	30/6	31/0
BKAM SPEC	6/0	6/0
BOEING CO	52/7	53/0
BOISE CAS	45/5	45/4
BND IN GLD	7/7	7/7
BORDEN	72/0	72/2
BOATWER	29/6	29/7
BR TELECOM	41/5	40/7
BRIGGS-STR	28/2	28/1
BRIST-MYER	47/7	47/6
BRUNSWICK	16/6	17/0
C 3 INC	0	0
C HUD G-EL	23/0	23/0
CABOT CORP	39/6	39/6
CAESARS WD	38/6	38/6
CA FREIGHT	23/6	23/6
CAS NAT GS	0	0
CATERPI TR	60/0	60/2
CBI IND	32/6	32/6
CBS	210/4	209/2
CENEL CP	54/4	54/7
CHAMP INTL	35/6	35/6
CHARTER CO	4/3	4/4
CHASE MAN	38/4	38/4
CHENED CP	38/1	38/2
CHENIC BK	37/3	37/6
CHEVRON	54/5	54/6
CHIC MILK	605/45	605/25
CHRYSLER	25/0	25/1
CHUBB CORP	76/1	76/1
CHUR FR CH	5/6	5/5
CIGNA CORP	60/7	60/7
CIN MILACR	20/1	20/3
CIR CIT ST	24/4	22/4
CIRCLE K	10/5	10/5
CITICORP	31/5	32/0
CLARK EQUI	40/7	40/7
CLOREX	42/6	43/0
COMBLL RES	12	12
COMBLL SP	53/2	53/4
COM PACIFIC	22/2	22/2
COACHMEN	8/4	8/4
COASTAL	43/0	43/0
COCA-COLA	66/1	66/3
COLECO	*13	*14
COLEMAN CO	57/3	57/5
COLLE-PALM	46/6	46/6
COLLINS GAS	33/5	33/7
CON PSY CE	37/4	37/6
CON EDISON	37/3	37/4
CONAGRA	26/0	26/2
CONTINENTAL	37/2	37/1
CONTL ILLN	*03	*02
CONTEL CP	62/0	62/5
CONTR DATA	19/3	19/1
CONS RAIL	38/2	38/3
COOPER T-R	36/2	36/2
COOPER COM	2/7	2/7
CORNING INC	41/2	41/2
CRAY RES	44/2	44/3
CULLINET	7/6	7/6
DANA CORP	41/6	41/6
DANIEL IND	12/6	12/7







## BUSINESS

# Moscow ready to reschedule some debt, says Jordan

AMMAN, Aug 18, (Reuters): The Soviet Union has agreed in principle to reschedule part of Jordan's debt due for repayment this year and next, a cabinet minister said yesterday.

The rest will be settled with Jordanian exports of phosphates and cement. Minister of State for Economic Affairs Taher Al Masro told Reuters.

Jordan owes Moscow principal and interest of \$190 million in 1989/90. The debt is mainly for military purchases.

Under an accord to be sealed in September, some of the payments will be rescheduled over 10 years with six years' grace, said Masri, who led a Jordanian team at talks in Moscow this week.

Delay in signing is mainly to decide the volume and price of Jordanian exports in the barter portion of the deal. "Each one will have to define the items and prices and then we will go to Moscow again in September to sign the accord," Masri said.

Masri refused to disclose Amman's debt to Moscow but said it was part of a total foreign debt that reached \$8.3 billion at the end of 1988, including \$1.1 billion in undisbursed loans.

A Western economist said Jordan owed about 13 per cent of its foreign debt to the socialist bloc and other countries outside the Paris Club of Western creditor nations.

Pro-Western Jordan turned to Mos-

cow for arms in 1982 buying missiles and anti-aircraft guns. They signed an air defence agreement in 1985 after Washington blocked an \$1.9 billion package that included Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

The Moscow rescheduling is much like those on which Amman put off payments on part of its more than \$7 billion debt to the Paris Club in July.

While Masri was in Moscow he and Soviet Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Constantin Katushev signed

the first trade protocol between the two countries, agreeing to equal exchanges in 1989-1990 totalling \$50 million, a Jordanian official said.

Soviet exports to Jordan in 1988, mainly iron ore, paper, machinery, timber and chemicals were worth 4.5 million dinars (around \$7.5 million at official exchange rates).

Jordan exported nothing to the Soviet Union.

## Value of imports drops

# Trade deficit sharply lower

WASHINGTON, Aug 18, (UPI): Record exports and sharply lower imports drove the United States' trade deficit down nearly \$2 billion in June to a seasonally adjusted \$8.17 billion, the lowest monthly shortfall in more than four years, the Commerce Department reported yesterday.

The department reported that the value of US goods sold abroad reached \$30.91 billion during June, breaking the previous record of \$30.76 billion set in April as US companies sharply increased their foreign sales of capital goods and consumer products.

Meanwhile, the value of imports declined \$1.5 billion from a record high in May to \$39.08 billion, reflecting declining US purchases of foreign automobiles and automotive parts, oil, capital goods and industrial supplies and materials.

The \$8.17 billion trade shortfall was the lowest since a \$6.8 billion deficit in December 1984 and roughly \$1 billion lower than what was generally expected by economists.

The good news comes on the heels of what was generally considered a poor May performance when the deficit ballooned to a revised \$10.08 billion.

It continues what has generally a year-long stretch of fluctuating monthly reports with no overall upward or downward trend in the shortfall.

Analysts said driving the deficit down further will be difficult because a stronger dollar that makes US products more expensive to foreigners and imports cheaper to US consumers.

"This (decline) is the last of the breed because of a rise in the value of the dollar," said Irwin Kellner, chief economist for Manufacturers Hanover in New York. "I don't think we are going to see any further improvement for at least another year. It's going to be a drag on the economy."

The department said the jump in exports was spurred by \$700 million in additional sales of US-produced capital goods, such as machinery used by companies to produce their products.

The United States also managed to sell \$200 million more in consumer goods and \$100 million more in industrial supplies and materials.

These gains were partly offset by \$600 million less in sales of other merchandise.

On the import side, US consumers cut their purchases of foreign automobiles, parts and engines by \$500 million, foreign capital goods by \$400 million, industrial supplies by \$400 million and foods, feeds and beverages by \$200 million.

## Strike hits BA flights

### UK inflation drops

LONDON, Aug 18, (Agencies): British Airways cancelled more than half of its European and domestic flights today as short-haul tabco crews went on strike over the sacking of a stewardess. A spokesman said.

More than 40 flights in and out of Heathrow were cancelled before 0800 GMT. All British shuttle flights were grounded until 1130 GMT and other destinations affected included Jersey, Dublin, Hamburg, Istanbul and Turin.

BA was maintaining services to major continental capitals including Paris, Rome and Madrid. Long-haul flights, including Concorde, were unaffected.

"Forty-seven per cent of European and domestic services are operating. We would hope and are confident of maintaining at least that level of operation," the spokesman said.

He said managers and trainee staff had been brought in to replace striking crew, and staffing had been reduced to the minimum level required by Britain's Civil Aviation Authority.

Passengers were asked to telephone the airport before leaving home, and some were booked onto flights with other carriers. The situation at British airports was "busy but not chaotic," the spokesman said.

Catering services on some flights were reduced or withdrawn. The short-haul staff, who account for a third of British Airways' 9,000 cabin crew staff, began a 24-hour strike at 2300 GMT yesterday over the sacking of a stewardess.

The BA spokesman said staff returning after the strike would face suspension unless they signed an undertaking to work normally. "We're saying: If you go out (on strike), you're out until you agree to work normally," he said.

Meanwhile, the government said today Britain's annual inflation rate fell to 8.2 per cent in July, from 8.3 per cent in June, the first decline in 19 months.

The drop marked the first victory for Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson in his long-running battle against resurgent inflation. The annual inflation rate hadn't declined since January, 1988, when it stood at 3.3 per cent.

The government has pushed up interest rates 10 times from a decade-low of 7.5 per cent in June 1988 to their current 14 per cent level in an effort to curb inflation.

The Department of Employment said its retail price index rose 0.1 per cent in July, compared with a gain of 0.3 per cent in June.

The department said its index, which uses a January 1987 base of 100, stood at 115.5 in July, compared with 115.4 in June, and 106.7 in July 1988.

The figures were slightly better than economists have been expecting, but there was little reaction to the news in the financial markets.

## US imports surge

WASHINGTON, Aug 18, (AP): Imports accounted for more than half of US petroleum consumption last month, surpassing the 50 per cent mark for the first time in 12 years, the American Petroleum Institute reports.

A lot of this oil is coming from the Middle East, the unstable Middle East, said institute spokesman R.G. Ensz. "It means dollars are leaving the country to pay for this oil."

The API's monthly statistical report, released Wednesday, found oil imports accounted for 50.4 per cent of domestic consumption in July, up from 43.5 per cent in July 1988.

The report said domestic deliveries of petroleum products averaged just under 17 million barrels a day, while total imports — crude oil plus petroleum products — averaged over 8.5 million barrels.

July's total was only the fourth time over that a monthly import figure had exceeded 50 per cent, the institute said. In March 1977 and July 1977, imports surged to 51.8 per cent of total deliveries, while in May 1977 imports reached 50.5 per cent.

Ensz said the new figures indicate "we're growing more dependent on foreign oil while Congress is putting moratoria on offshore drilling."

Legislation is moving through Congress, he said, that would stop drilling for oil in Alaska and off the coasts of California, western Florida, the mid-Atlantic and New England.

## Economic aid

TOKYO, Aug 18, (KUNA): A Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman yesterday expressed his country's readiness to resume economic aid to China which had been blocked following Beijing's recent crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations.

The spokesman told newsmen that Japan will gradually freeze the frozen loans to China, earlier granted for the stretching of pipeline and other projects, being implemented at the time when Chinese forces crushed demonstrators on Tiananmen Square in central Beijing early last June.

He said that though the tranquility had prevailed in China, but the resumed aid will not be utilised for the projects being implemented in Beijing.

## London wage growth slows

LONDON, Aug 18, (Reuters): Britain announced yesterday that wage rises slowed down in June, giving what economists called an unexpected boost to the government's fight against inflation.

Official figures showed average earnings rose nine per cent in the year to the end of June on a seasonally adjusted basis, down from 9.25 per cent in the 12 months to May 31.

Slower wage growth is good news for the government, economists say, because it keeps consumer spending power in check and helps the battle to control inflation and cool an overheating economy. Financial markets had been expecting a figure of around 9.5 per cent.

Also yesterday, the Department of Employment said the seasonally adjusted jobless total fell by 21,300 in July to 1.79 million but the national unemployment rate, at 6.3 per cent, was unchanged from the previous month.

The adjusted unemployment figure has now fallen every month for three years and the 6.3 per cent jobless rate is the lowest since October 1980.

Employment Secretary Norman Fowler welcomed the fall in earnings growth but said workers risked pricing themselves out of jobs if they insisted on rises well above the current rate of inflation of 8.3 per cent. New inflation data is due today.

"If negotiators in the public and private sectors try to set pay according to some going rate rather than their own economic circumstances, this will be paid for by job losses," he said.

Britain's inflation rate, among the highest of major Western industrialised countries, has sparked a series of disputes and strikes this summer over pay in the public and private sectors. Most have been resolved with rises of more than 8.3 per cent.

Workers on the London underground (subway) system won an 8.75 per cent rise earlier this month while employees of the state-run National British Rail Network accepted 8.8 per cent. Rises for police and power workers have topped nine per cent.

Government officials warned that yesterday's earnings figures did not take account of the latest pay awards.

But the London equity market was buoyed by the news which helped push the Financial Times stock exchange index of 100 leading shares up by 19.9 points to stand at 2,365.7 by mid-session.

## American consumer prices up

WASHINGTON, Aug 18, (AP): Consumer inflation rose a modest 0.2 per cent in July, held down by the sharpest drop in gasoline prices in nearly three years, the US government said today.

The increase in the Labour Department's consumer price index last month matched the gain in June. Together, the two reports showed the mildest two-month inflation picture since July-August 1986 and marked a sharp contrast to surging prices in the first five months of the year.

Even with the recent slowdown, prices for the first seven months of 1989 rose at a 5.5 per cent annual rate, more than a full percentage point higher than the 4.4 per cent increases in both 1988 and 1987.

The Labour Department said the most recent dampening of cost pressures reflected drops in prices of gasoline and apparel, particularly women's clothing, and a modest rise in food costs.

Gasoline prices, after shooting up 21.2 per cent in the first five months of the year, fell 1.0 per cent in June and dropped an additional 2.2 per cent in July, the sharpest decline since October 1986.

However, fuel oil costs rose 1.5 per cent last month, reversing June's decline of 1.2 per cent, and natural gas was up 0.5 per cent.

## New proposals to promote joint ventures

# Japan, Moscow to begin high-level business talks

TOKYO, Aug 18, (UPI): Japan and the Soviet Union will start high-level business talks in Moscow Aug 23 with Japan's co-operation in development projects in Siberia high on the agenda, news reports said yesterday.

Ryoichi Kawai, chairman of the world's largest construction machinery maker Komatsu Ltd and leader of the Japanese delegation, suggested the Soviet Union may set forth new proposals aimed at promoting joint ventures in view of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reform policy.

Kawai, however, said Japan's economic approach to the Soviet Union has been limited because of pending political issues. Kyodo said.

The territorial dispute over four Soviet-held islands north of Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido has kept the two nations from signing a peace treaty since the end of World War II in 1945.

The meeting, a joint session of the Japan-Soviet and Soviet-Japan Business Co-operation Committees, will be the first to be held in 18 months.

The Japanese delegation will comprise about 170 business leaders and government officials.

The Japanese government has decided to allow foreign investors to acquire shares of KDD, former state-run international telecommunications monopoly.

starting in fiscal 1990, beginning next April 1, the national daily Yomiuri Shimbun reported yesterday.

The paper said foreign acquisition will be limited to about 20 per cent of the company's outstanding shares totalling about 64 million.

The company was established as a monopoly in 1953 and its constitution now bars foreigners from acquiring its shares.

The government allowed two competitors to enter the market in 1987 in line with its policy of opening the telecommunications market. One of the two rival firms is 17.7 per cent owned by Cable and Wireless of Britain while the other is owned about 10 per cent by foreign investors.

The government has already allowed foreign investors to acquire stock in former domestic telecommunications monopoly Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp.

Japanese farmers, wary of the expanding liberalisation of farm imports to Japan, are stepping up their efforts to promote exports and revitalize the farm industry, the National Federation of Agricultural Co-operative Associations has reported.

The federation said the government is supporting their drive by improving quarantine procedures.

The federation said regional agricultural co-operatives have launched exports of such products as beef, pears, grapes

and radish to destinations, including Hong Kong, Belgium, Canada and Singapore.

More co-operatives are expected to follow the lead, it said.

"We will try to reduce our production costs to promote exports of our pears, which are gaining increasing popularity overseas," an official of an Economic Federation in Chiba Prefecture (province) south of Tokyo was quoted as saying.

Japan's agricultural imports increased 50 per cent over the last three years to \$27.39 billion in 1988 while exports totalled only \$959 million, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries said.

The Central Union of Agricultural co-operatives, Japan's largest agricultural organisation, said earlier this month it will work out a nine-year programme to improve the competitiveness of Japanese farm produce overseas to cope with the liberalisation of the domestic market.

The union said the plan will focus on improving productivity and management of agricultural co-operatives.

Japan's household spending in June increased 0.7 per cent over a year ago, marking the first year-on-year increase in three months, the government's management and co-ordination agency reported yesterday.

The agency said per household spending totalled 279,973 yen (about \$1,986), up 0.7 per cent over a year ago after inflation

adjustments. The rise followed a 2.9 per cent decline in May and a 0.8 per cent fall in April.

"It's too early to say the June figures suggested that spending will continue to grow in months to come," an official of the agency said. "We need data for July (when summer bonuses were paid) to forecast future consumption trends."

The agency said spending on transportation and communications, and medical goods and services surged 15.3 per cent and 11.4 per cent respectively. Spending on education, clothing and shoes, and housing rose 6.9 per cent, 2.7 per cent and 0.7 per cent respectively, the agency said.

Expenditures by wage-earning families gained 2.8 per cent to an average 299,794 yen (\$2,126), the first increase in three months, the agency said.

It said average monthly income of wage-earner families increased 1.8 per cent to 623,657 yen (\$4,423), with disposable income after tax and national insurance payments gaining 3.6 per cent.

In another development, the Economic Planning Agency reported yesterday new machinery orders received by Japanese manufacturers in June gained 8.9 per cent over the previous month to 1.845 trillion yen (\$13.1 billion), reflecting robust domestic demand.

## Beijing fears rock H.K. stocks

# China posts \$3.8b account deficit

BEIJING, Aug 18, (AP): Soaring imports contributed to a \$3.8 billion deficit in China's current account last year, official reports said today. The state administration of foreign exchange recorded an increase, however, in China's foreign currency reserves, excluding gold, to \$17.35 billion from \$15.24 billion in 1987, the English-language China Daily said.

The report said China posted a \$7.13 billion surplus in its capital accounts, including direct investments and international loans.

The \$3.8 billion deficit in the current account, which includes trade and tourism, was largely due to a doubling of the nation's trade deficit because of sluggish export growth and soaring imports, it said.

According to International Monetary Fund accounting procedures, China's exports in 1988 totalled \$41.05 billion, up 18.2 per cent over 1987, while its imports grew 27.4 per cent to \$46.37 billion, it said.

The resulting \$5.32 billion trade deficit was double that of 1987, the report said.

Trade statistics in China are calculated according to different methods by the Customs Administration, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange, which uses IMF accounting procedures to measure trade and other financial transfers.

China's Customs Administration yesterday reported a \$700 million trade deficit in July, the official Xinhua news agency said.

China's import growth slowed from 37.7 per cent in June on a month-to-month basis to 16 per cent in July. Imports totalled \$5.18 billion, while exports grew a meagre 0.1 per cent over June to \$4.4 billion, it said.

From January to June, China posted a trade deficit of \$5.79 billion, up from \$1.22 billion in the first half of 1988, according to customs statistics from the State Statistical Bureau.

Meanwhile, fears that a struggle for control of China's military has begun sent the Hang Seng index plunging over 100 points this morning, underlining how vulnerable the Hong Kong stock market remains to political turmoil in China, brokers said.

The tumble ended as abruptly as it started when China denied a Western news report that infighting had broken out over deposed leader Zhao Ziyang's post on the military commission.

The main indicator finished the morning only 64.42 points, or 2.5 per cent down at 2,552.56, recovering from a low of 2,514.

"The fact that it went down over 100 points on a rumour like that shows just how vulnerable this market is," said James Russell-Stracey, research analyst at S.G. Warburg Securities.

China's Defence Ministry denied the report that Defence Minister Qin Jiwei had been arrested by troops loyal to President Yang Shangkun.

"It's pure rumour-mongering," a ministry official in Beijing said when asked to comment on the report.

## Plans to close nuclear reactors

### Study questions

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Aug 18, (AP): An influential committee of the ruling Social Democrats released a report today questioning plans to dismantle two nuclear reactors in the first step towards phasing out nuclear energy.

The report said the government, which is committed to end nuclear power by 2010, had ruled out environmentally dangerous alternatives had not proposed a viable energy plan.

Sweden voted in a 1980 national referendum to phase out nuclear energy following the nuclear accident at nuclear reactor at Pennsylvania's three mile island. Plans were accelerated after the 1986 Chernobyl accident in the Soviet Union.

The 12 nuclear power stations provide about half Sweden's energy needs.

Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson has said the government will disclose details of its energy programme next year, and dismissed the criticism from within his own party, which has been building for several weeks.

The report by the "1990s group" outlining the party's policy proposals for the next decade, raised doubts that the government could stick to its programme to close the first two stations in 1995 and 1996.

The criticism was a blow to the ruling party since it came mainly from trade union representatives. Unions form the backbone of the party.

The unions fear that closing the stations would lead to a steep rise in electricity costs threatening heavy industry and costing jobs.

The Riksdag, or parliament, has ruled out harnessing sing four northern rivers for hydroelectric projects and has called for limits on polluting emissions from coal — and oil-fuelled plants.

"Our conclusion is that the positions of the Riksdag are incompatible," said the report. "We cannot see how we can avoid difficult choices, where one or several of the Riksdag's decisions may have to bend."

## AIDS drug boosts fortunes

### Wellcome shares soar

LONDON, Aug 18, (Reuters): Buyers scrambled to snap up shares in British pharmaceuticals company Wellcome PLC today after US tests showed its drug AZT delays the onset of AIDS in healthy carriers of the virus that causes the killer disease.

"Wellcome doesn't know what's hit it," said share analyst Erling Refsum of stockbrokers Nomura Research.

Shares in the company soared by more than one-third to £6.95 (\$10.84) at midday on the London Stock Exchange following release of the results of the two-year study yesterday.

The US government-sponsored trial involved 3,200 volunteers who tested positive for the HIV virus which causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

It found that healthy carriers of the virus who were treated with AZT, whose brand name is Retrovir, contracted AIDS at half the rate of an untreated control group.

"It's not a cure, it's a stay of execution — but it's a hell of a worthwhile one," Refsum said.

The findings, which also showed that AZT had few side effects, could increase significantly the market for the drug that is currently licensed for use in 50,000 cases of AIDS in the United States.

An estimated one million to 1.5 million people in the United States are believed to be HIV carriers who do not have the symptoms of AIDS. The World Health Organisation estimates the number worldwide at between five to 10 million.

Analyst Peter Smith of UBS-Phillips and Drew Stockbrokers said the results of the study had given Wellcome, whose drug is the only one so far licensed to treat AIDS patients, a further boost ahead of its competitors.

"It puts several years between Wellcome and its rivals," he said.

Wellcome's major potential competitor is Bristol-Myers Co of the United States whose drug DDI has yet to win approval for treating AIDS patients.

The British company gave a low-key response to the study, which came two weeks after another trial concluded that AZT helped halt deterioration in patients with minor AIDS symptoms.

## US agency checks out possible commercial space launch sites

WASHINGTON, Aug 18, (Reuters): From the sands of Florida to the palm-fringed shores of Hawaii, the US government is looking for a site for the next stage of the space business: the commercial launch.

Until now most US commercial payloads have been launched from Cape Canaveral on the Florida coast aboard government vehicles such as the space shuttle.

The first US-licensed commercial sub-orbital launch was completed on March 29 at the White Sands missile range in New Mexico and the first orbital commercial launch is set to go from the Cape this month.

With 28 commercial launches planned from the Cape until the end of 1993, the US government foresees potential launch-lock — commercial space

projects being delayed to make from for government projects.

"Already we see crowding down at the launch pads," said Stephanie Lee-Miller, director of the Federal Office of Commercial Space Transportation.

She noted seven private US companies now market commercial launch services — Martin Marietta Inc. McDonnell Douglas Corp., General Dynamics Corp., Space Services Inc. of America, American Rocket Co. Conatec Inc and Space Data Corp.

As agencies from Europe, China and Australia increase their capacity for commercial launches, the United States does not want to get shut out of the market, Lee-Miller said.

"The commercial launch market could be easily dominated by one or two countries," she said at a briefing.

The European space agency's Ariane Space Facility in Kourou, French Guiana, commands more than half the world's commercial satellite launching market.

Lee-Miller acknowledged that part of the reason for Kourou's success could be the bureaucratic red tape that can stall US-launched commercial missions. With a total investment of more than \$500 million, a company can hardly afford to have a launch delayed for long.

Another key international player could be China, which last year pledged to develop its commercial launch capabilities at a site near Xichang in Sichuan province.

An Australian venture that would be owned jointly by Australian, American and Japanese investors is being discussed — and one of its first launches would

reportedly be with a Soviet rocket. A Brazilian site is also under consideration.

With such international competition, the pressure is on the United States, said Norman Bowles, who is responsible for licensing US commercial sites.

So far, two proposals have come in, Bowles said. Florida has suggested using three inactive launch pads at Cape Canaveral as a separate commercial facility and Hawaii proposed two areas near the city of Hilo on the big island.

Both potential sites have the requisite warm weather and launch routes over water and both could be operational by 1992, Bowles said.

The Hawaiian option may appeal to Japanese communications companies because of its Pacific location, while the Cape Canaveral commercial site may

help retain those companies accustomed to launching from there, Bowles said.

The only problem with this ambitious plan could be that communications companies and others that might take advantage of it are not convinced of the need for commercial space ports, as the launch sites are known.

Martin Marietta, which plans six commercial payloads between September 1989 and June 1993, feels it has plenty of room at the Cape and that building more launch pads would not be good business.

"If you're only launching two or three a year, it's not economically feasible," Martin Marietta



EVENTS

This week on KTV 2

- SUNDAY**
- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Care Bears: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Sea Hunt: "The Witness". Dr Mike and his daughter attempts to encounter a gang of smugglers who plan to drown a witness to death.
- 7.00 Architecture at the Cross Roads: "Texas Instant Cities". The planning of modern cities and trans-modernisation of buildings architecture accession to the demands of residents.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Flying Doctors: Villagers believe that old "Henwi" works secretly during night-time and serves people for his food. A farmer from the village plans to find out the truth.
- 9.30 The Secret World: A look at Australia as the land of dreams, mysteries, magic, evil and obscenity.
- 10.00 Kate and Allie: both Kate and Allie have to spend their New Year's Eve in the basement while their children are celebrating the occasion.
- 10.30 Bestseller: "Robert F. Kennedy and His Times" Part 3.
- 12.00 News in Brief
- 12.15 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown
- MONDAY**
- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial
- 6.30 The Scheme of (Bionic Six): A cartoon about a group of athletes and a look at the scheme that involves them.
- 7.00 Roving Report: A weekly round-up of local, Arab and international news, events and activities.
- 7.30 Charles in Charge: "Feed For Thought". Charles attempts to protect the family kid attacked by his schoolmate.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Paradise: A cartoon about a man who plans to put an end to attacks made by a gang on the town of Paradise. What happens when he encounters the old and sick gang's boss?
- 9.30 227: "The Real Decoy". After Pearl is mugged in the park, Mark and Rose pose as elderly women to help Sandra, a newly appointed maid, nab the criminal.
- 10.00 Tales of the Unexpected: "Pattern of Guilt". A
- crime is contracted against a sum of money - investigations made by the police lead to the accusation of an innocent man.
- 10.30 Jack and Mike: "A Taste of Chicago". An old mafia man is freed from prison and plans to live an ordinary life. But he is chased by his old associates.
- 11.30 News in Brief
- 11.45 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown
- TUESDAY**
- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Amigo and the friends: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Captain Power: Dread issues his orders to eradicate Captain Power and his soldiers. But unexpected help came to rescue Power and his men.
- 7.00 Gone Fishing: New Zealand salmon. A look at the world's most popular recreational sport. Types of fish, where to find it, how to get there.
- 7.30 The New Adventures of Beans Baxter: "Bean's unpleasant introduction to modern science. Where Beans is involved in operating a newly developed Robot for protecting VIPs."
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 A Different World
- 9.00 Horizon: "After Chernobyl". The effects and marks appeared as a result of Chernobyl disaster.
- 10.00 Hooperman: "In Search of Bijoux". Hooperman while searching for his lost dog he succeeds in tracing evidences for an unsolved mystery.
- 10.30 LA Law: "I am in the Nude for Love". The people protest against an adjacent settlement for the nude. Victor stands against two parents who plan to put an end to their unconscious daughter.
- 11.30 News in Brief
- 11.45 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown
- WEDNESDAY**
- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial
- 6.30 The Scheme of (Bionic Six): A cartoon about a group of athletes and a look at the scheme that involves them.
- 7.00 Roving Report: A weekly round-up of local, Arab and international news, events and activities.
- 7.30 Charles in Charge: "Feed For Thought". Charles attempts to protect the family kid attacked by his schoolmate.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Paradise: A cartoon about a man who plans to put an end to attacks made by a gang on the town of Paradise. What happens when he encounters the old and sick gang's boss?
- 9.30 227: "The Real Decoy". After Pearl is mugged in the park, Mark and Rose pose as elderly women to help Sandra, a newly appointed maid, nab the criminal.
- 10.00 Tales of the Unexpected: "Pattern of Guilt". A



A scene from the bestseller, 'Robert F. Kennedy' on KTV 2 at 10.30 pm on Sunday.



A scene from 'Miami Vice' on KTV 2 at 9.15 pm on Friday.

- stomach ulcer and acidity.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Simon & Simon: "Play it again, Simon." A.G. Simon lives a dream where his brother acts in two personalities: one as "Harlow" who is found dead and the other that helps him trace the murderer.
- 9.30 Best of British: "The War Game." A look at British films that dealt with war activities.
- 10.00 Learning the Ropes: "Like Father Like Son." Mark feels disappointed when his girlfriend deserted him.
- 10.30 A Classical film: "The Long Night." Starring: Henry Fonda. A young man shoots the seducer of his sweetheart and barricades himself in a room against the police.
- 12.00 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown
- THURSDAY**
- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Real Ghost Busters: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Take Heart: Educational programme
- 7.00 Inter Bang: The killer moves to China Town in California while Burton, Gano and Wilner get rid of the Mexican police and follow the killer there to find out the seventh version of the tower.
- 7.30 Walt Disney: "A Tale of two Critics." A racoon and a bear reaches the land safely and co-exists together friendly.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.30 Breaking Away: Recreational and entertainment activities carried out by the Touristic Enterprises Company (TEC) in various parts in Kuwait.
- 8.45 Around the World
- 9.15 Miami Vice: "Missing Hours." A corpse disappears suddenly before confirming the cause of death. One of the team's members confesses that she signed the releasing paper but refuses to co-operate with them.
- 10.00 Open All Hours: The grocer's assistant plans to develop his social relations by advertising his interest to have pen-pals.
- 10.30 Moonlighting: "I See England, I See France." Maddie is surprised to find a dead man in her office while another one alleges that the deceased was his partner in a lottery.
- 11.30 News in Brief
- 11.45 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown

KTV 1 weekly highlights

- SUNDAY**
- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.30 Cartoons
- 12.15 That's Incredible
- 4.00 Arabic film: Salam Ya Sahebi. Starring: Adel Imam
- 6.00 Children tales
- 7.00 Health magazine
- 8.15 Diwanat Shura Al Nabat
- 10.30 Variety programme
- MONDAY**
- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.30 Ifah Ya Samsim
- 12.35 Summer clubs
- 2.15 Daily Arabic serial: Al Hejra. Starring: Hani Al Roumani, Salma Al Masri
- 4.00 Historical serial: Meerath Al Saneen
- 5.45 Children and Summer
- 7.45 Holy Quran and Science
- 9.30 Local programme: Ehtimalat
- TUESDAY**
- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.30 Cartoons
- 12.15 Variety programme: With stars
- 4.00 Arabic play: Telephone. Starring: Hatem Thou Al Faqar
- 7.00 Historical serial: 7.55 Seminar of the Week
- 9.45 New Daily Arabic serial: Ana Wa Inta Wa Baba Fi Al Mishmesh. Starring: Hassan Abedin, Mahmoud Al Jendi
- 10.35 Arabic film: Hassan Wa Marika. Starring: Ismail Yassin
- WEDNESDAY**
- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.30 Ifah Ya Samsim
- 12.30 Local programme: Huwar Wa Nagham



Adel Imam in 'Salam Ya Sahebi' Arabic film on KTV 1 at 4.00 pm on Sunday

- 4.00 Football match
- 6.00 Children programme
- 7.00 World About Us
- 10.45 Arabic weekly serial: Mahakem. Starring: Mahakem, Bela Sujoon (Trials without juries)
- THURSDAY**
- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.30 Cartoons
- 11.15 Local serial: Ablah Muneera. Starring: Khaled Nafessi, Muna Jaber
- 12.05 Japanese competition programme
- 4.00 Local play: Al Herman
- 8.30 With Islam
- 10.45 Arabic film: Al Hub Aydan Yamout (Love Also Dies). Starring: Ezzat Al Aylali, Safiya Al Emari
- FRIDAY**
- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.15 Cartoons
- 11.15 Friday prayers
- 1.30 Local programme: Friday Meet
- 4.00 Local play: Lesaber Hoodood. Starring: Ibrahim Al Sallal
- 10.00 Wrestling
- 10.45 Variety programme: Kilma



A scene from Full House.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

**Kuwait Science Museum**  
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

**Islamic Arts Museum**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

**Tarek Rajab Museum**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic art, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

**Sadu House**  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts - rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

SOCIAL

**Kapilku contest**  
AUGUST 25: Kapilku will hold the Little Mr and Ms Philippines, Kuwait contest at Showbiz Pizza place, Salmiya. This coincides with Araw ng Mga Bata (Children's Day). For details contact Jojo Modrano, AVP, welfare and special projects, VCP Rosale Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang - Tel: 483447.

**Kapilku exhibition**  
SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Art and Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (Kapilku) will hold an exhibition of arts and handicrafts at the Indian embassy hall from 3 pm to 8 pm. Those interested to show their own creation, please contact on telephone Nos: 5632708/4316797/5626620.

**Breeze '89**  
OCT 26: Tivito Centre's Breeze '89 is going to hit the

floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casimir or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67 after 3.30 pm.

**Fiesta Filipiniana**  
UNDER the auspices of the Philippine embassy here in Kuwait, the Filipino Cultural Club, under the competent leadership of Buddy Patungan, proudly announces to its clamouring fans the comeback of "Fiesta Filipiniana '89" with the original cast at its original venue - where else, but at the spacious elegantly lit Al Jahra Ballroom of the Meridien Hotel. Play dates are set on Friday Sept 8, 1989, 4 to 7 pm.

For more particulars and ticket reservations, contact Florence - 2436121 or 2439451.

**Coiva Nite**  
OCT 19: Annual Coiva Nite at New Ball Room of Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact tel: 2413884/2434776/562914-1/4310913 after 5pm.

**Star Nite**  
DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramada Salam 'Al Dir' with Perfect Strangers music. Children entry KD.3/- from 2-12 years to 12 years. Others KD.4/- with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainment under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact tel. (res) 5331940 or 2413706 pm only.

**Flaskki's contest**  
FINAL preparations are now under way for the ultimate singing contest in Kuwait held for the Filipino population in this Gulf state.

August 13, 20 and 27 at 5pm. Participants are encouraged to bring their music tapes.

Last Friday's auditions yielded a bevy of song lovers who will vie for valuable prizes during the contest slated for Friday September 1, at 4pm, at the Meridien Hotel.

For more particulars, kindly contact the following Flaskki officers: Chary Nepomuceno Tel. 5624509, Rose Formentes: 4843601, Maion Tadana: 4881358, Esther Madamba: 5312700 ext. 4221, Marilyn Inductivo: 3940600 ext. 2230 & 4521 and other Flaskki officers or the event vice-chairman Al Castro of Martin Marietta Data Systems.

HOTELS

**At the SAS hotel**  
AL GHAEZER: SAS hotel's very own handicrafted show. Available for half day or whole day trip along the Gulf coastline. Food, beverages and fishing tackle provided on board. For booking, call 5657000 ext 416.

**At the Holiday Inn**  
AT the coffeeshop: A variety of continental and oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste for lunch or dinner at KD5.000 per pax and half price for children.

**At the Pullman Hotel**  
AL Shallah coffee shop: Offers daily businessmen's lunch "autour d'un plat" at a reasonable price. Serves Arabic and international dishes. Live music nightly from 7:30 pm.

**At the Pullman Hotel**  
Les Elysees Restaurant: Experience the ambience of French seating and meticulous service while savouring authentic French food offered on our "menu degustation," a four course menu served with a touch of nouvelle cuisine. For reservations, call: 5634200

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reservation call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

**PEACOCK ROOM:** Chinese specialties served in a very cozy atmosphere. Open for lunch and dinner. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 532.

**EEDAM:** Wide varieties of delectable home-made goodies, freshly baked items to choose from. Eedam daily specials also available.

**CLOCK:** Only drive-in restaurant in Kuwait. Serves wide selections of fast food including our very own specialties.

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family "n friends" n savour our delicious Shazarak barbecue, at KD5.500 per pax and KD2.750 per child.

SPORTS

**I.A.C. badminton**  
SEPT 7: I.A.C. is organising a badminton tournament open to "All Indians in Kuwait."

All those wishing to participate are requested to contact the organising committee for further information and entry forms. Contact: I.A.C. office Tel: 3904817 (6.00 pm to 10.30 pm); F.K. Koshy 3982578 or 3913476; Vijay Samuel 2401534 or 2644863; Philip Cherian 4741946 or 4330041.

**Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club**  
PRE-SEASON training every Sunday and Tuesday starting at new time of 7:00 pm at the university ground, corner of Airport Road and 2nd Ring Road. Everybody welcome, old or new players and anyone interested in keeping fit. For further details contact Steve Hutchinson on 3721540 res. or 3260177 ext 5072 work.

**LADIES' Keep Fit classes**  
at La Palma Fitness Centre at the Kuwait International on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Free use of the pool after each session plus free use of the sauna on Tuesdays. Also judo, karate and taekwondo classes. Individual coaching for tennis and swimming available. Garden poolside barbecue every Friday afternoon. Recreation facilities include bowling, snooker and health club with sauna, steam bath and plunge pool. Telephone Paul or Vivienne at: 2530000/8050.

All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuruaikah. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 9.30 Ifah Ya Samsim
- 10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
- 10.15 Daily Arabic serial: Aser Al Hub. Starring: Sameeha Ayoub, Nabeela Al Sayed
- 11.15 Local serial: Naseeb
- 12.15 Weekly Arabic serial: Min Ajel Ghadi
- 1.00 News in Brief
- 1.05 World Today via Satellite
- 1.30 Sports Billy: Cartoon serial
- 2.15 Daily Arabic serial: Al Mehrath Wa Al Bour
- 3.15 Religious programme
- 3.35 Cartoon serial
- 4.00 English film: Cinderella
- 7.00 The Little Artist
- 7.30 Cultural programme

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait  
Al Ghanem Pharmacy  
Fahd Al Salem St.  
Near Carlton Hotel  
Al Sharq Al Jadid Pharmacy  
Kuwait Souq Bldg.  
Opp to the Scientific Museum  
Hawalli and Nagra  
Al Hana Pharmacy  
Nagra, Beirut St.  
Main Nagra Complex  
Salmiya and Rumailhiya  
Ebin Al Nafes Pharmacy  
Hamad Al Mubarak St.  
Hamad Khaleefa Al Hmaid Bldg.  
Fahad and Almadhi  
Bastoor Pharmacy  
Fahad, Al Dabous St.  
Qais Al Ghanem Bldg.  
Kheitan  
Al Tawfeeq Pharmacy  
Southern St.  
Al Rajaan Commercial Market  
Jahra  
Al Khaled Pharmacy  
Opp. Jahra Co-op.

KTV 2

- 6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
- 6.10 Popples: Cartoon serial
- 6.30 Owl: A look at the "Pelican" ... how it lives and feeds its chicks ... A special type of bee that bites off three leaves and foliage ... Animals made of metal and scrap
- 7.00 Wild World of Animals: "The Land That Came in from the Cold". Alaska in 1800: a stark and desolate scene with no trees or notable animal life... today Alaska's south-

ern parts are filled with forests and animals, birds and fish...

7.30 Full House: "Jingle Hell" Uncle Jessie and Joe sing before a panel of umpires...

8.00 News in English

8.30 Starman: "Dusty" Dusty rewards Starman and his son by stealing their car where they have to chase her

9.30 The Nuclear Age: The Haves and the Haves Not. More and more countries have joined the nuclear club... current developments along with the development of new nuclear powers...

10.30 Movie: "Made for Each Other" Starring: James Stewart, Carole Lombard... Problems of a lawyer and his new wife culminate in the near-death of their infant son

12.00 News in brief

12.15 Magazine D'Actualite and close down

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus  
Red Scorpion  
Al Salmiya  
Arabic Film  
Al Hama  
Arabic Film  
Drive-In  
Arabic Film  
Al Firdous  
Jaani Dushman  
Fahad Open-Air  
Khatroon Ke Khiladi  
Al Fahad  
Devil's Three  
Al Jahra  
Ninja and Warriors of Fire  
Granada  
Three The Hard Way

Al Sulaibikhat  
Arabic Film  
Al Jeeb  
Isabella  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
Arabic Film

PRAYERS	
Fajr	3.54 am
Zuhr	11.52
Asr	3.27 pm
Maghreb	6.24
Isha	7.47



## Hollywood's music engineer

## Keeping ears perked

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): One of Hollywood's busiest music men doesn't play a note, write a song or conduct an orchestra, but he does engineer the scores of some of Hollywood's best films.

His name is Budd Carr, and it was Carr who created the musical backgrounds for *Platoon*, *Wall Street*, *Salvador*, *Talk Radio*, *Hoosiers* and *Alien Nation*, among others.

It used to be that scores for movies were left mostly in the hands of famous composer-conductors, men like Dmitri Tiomkin, Elmer Bernstein, Bronislav Caper, and even such brilliant contemporary musicians as Henry Mancini.

Although Carr has a musical background, he doesn't compose or conduct a single bar of music.

His is the unique job of conferring with directors — in his case it is most often Oscar-winner Oliver Stone — about which scenes need music, the type of music called for and then finding the right bits and pieces of songs.

## Write

He also consults with composers who actually write the music to fit the action and mood of the images on the screen.

Carr compares his work with that of a detective, chasing down the right music to enhance the visual action on the screen.

His current project is *Born on the Fourth of July*, Stone's new film starring Tom Cruise as a Vietnam combat soldier.

A year ago Carr began collecting 16, 90-minute audio cassettes, a collection of music from 1957 to 1972, to give Stone a selection for the score. The cassettes also gave Carr an idea of how the time period sounded musically.

Directors, he said, are more selective now than in decades past, when almost every foot of film was accompanied by a musical sound track.

"Today there isn't as much background music as there used to be because filmmakers have changed their emphasis," said Carr, 43.

"They don't make as many epic movies with wall-to-wall music, or at least a sense of wall-to-wall music as in a *Lawrence of Arabia* type of film. Whenever anyone moved, so did a string."

## Happens

"That still happens when John Williams scores a film like *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, where he scored 120 minutes of

Harrison Ford in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*: John Williams scored 120 minutes of music.

music.

"We also don't have as many romantic films, which called for a great deal of background music to help create mood. A couple would walk down the street and the strings were playing. There was no character development going on. It just filled in."

"Directors now use silence for emphasis, especially in horror films where silence is scary. Sometimes an actor's performance is so emotional it doesn't need musical support."

Carr says some directors "feel certain characters need a musical signature whenever they appear on screen."

"We did that for Arnold Schwarzenegger in *Terminator*. We created an aura. On the other hand sometimes you go against the obvious. In *Platoon* the *Adagio for Strings* (a classical piece) was not an obvious call."

"The music shut out the horror of the scenes, but it didn't take you out of the film. It allowed you to watch some things you really didn't want to watch."



Lawrence of Arabia, starring Peter O'Toole and Omar Sharif: an epic movie with wall-to-wall music.

## UK charts static

## Marx usurps Prince in US

LONDON, (AP): For the third straight week, Jive Bunny and the Mastermixers topped the British pop singles chart with their retro hit *Swing the Mood*.

In a repeat of last week's top 10, *French Kiss* by Lil Louis and Kylie Minogue's *I Wouldn't Change A Thing* followed in second and third spots.

Alice Cooper moved up notch to No. 4 with *Poison*, and *Toy Soldiers* by Marika came from 10th spot to round out the top 5.

Liza Minnelli returns to the top 10 this week with *Losing My Mind*, and with other newcomers *Blame It On The Boogie* by Big Fun, *You're History* by Shakespear's Sister and *Do The Right Thing* by Redhead Kingspin and the F.B.I.

## UK Top Ten

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (1) *Swing The Mood* — Jive Bunny and the Mastermixers (Music Factory).
2. (2) *French Kiss* — Lil Louis (London).
3. (3) *Wouldn't Change A Thing* — Kylie Minogue (PWL).
4. (5) *Poison* — Alice Cooper (Epic).
5. (10) *Toy Soldiers* — Marika (CBS).
6. (16) *Losing My Mind* — Liza Minnelli (Epic).
7. (25) *Blame It On The Boogie* — Big Fun (Jive).
8. (15) *You're History* — Shakespear's Sister (London).
9. (23) *Do The Right Thing* — Redhead Kingspin and the F.B.I. (Records).
10. (4) *On Our Own* — Bobby Brown (MCA).

*Right Here Waiting* by Richard Marx took over the number one position Wednesday among best selling pop singles records in the United States. The hit disc moved up from third place a week ago.

Bobby Brown's *On Our Own* stayed on it second spot for the third week in a row on the Cash Box Magazine chart, while Paula Abdul's *Cold-Hearted* vaulted from eighth to third.

Last week's number one hit, *Baddance*, by Prince, from the movie *Batman*, toppled to ninth place.

## US Top Ten

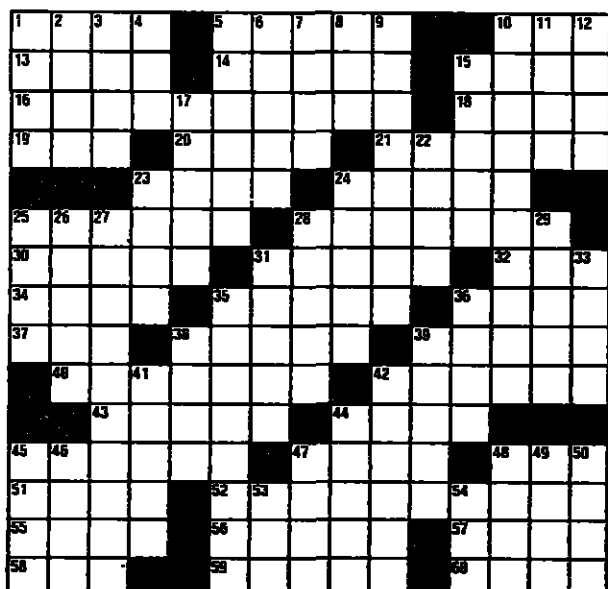
The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box Magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (3) *Right Here Waiting* — Richard Marx (EMI).
2. (2) *On Our Own* — Bobby Brown (MCA).
3. (8) *Cold-Hearted* — Paula Abdul (Virgin).
4. (6) *I Like It* — Dru (Island).
5. (7) *Once Bitten Twice Shy* — Great White (Capitol).
6. (13) *Don't Wanna Lose You* — Gloria Estefan (Epic).
7. (14) *Hangin' Tough* — New Kids on the Block (Columbia).
8. (10) *The End of Innocence* — Don Henley (Geffen).
9. (1) *Baddance* — Prince (Paisley Park-Warner Brothers).
10. (12) *Secret Rendezvous* — Karen White (Warner Brothers).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box Magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (4) *Are You Ever Gonna Love Me* — Holly Dunn (Warner Brothers).
2. (2) *Timber I'm Falling In Love* — Patty Loveless (MCA).
3. (7) *Never Giving Up On Love* — Michael Martin Murphy (Warner Brothers).
4. (1) *Sunday In The South* — Shenadoah (Columbia).
5. (9) *This Woman* — K.T. Oslin (RCA).
6. (5) *Why'd You Come In Here Lookin' Like That* — Dolly Parton (Columbia).
7. (3) *Love Has No Right* — Billy Joe Royal (Atlantic America).
8. (14) *Honky Tonk Heart* — Highway 101 (Warner Brothers).
9. (6) *Houston Solution* — Ronnie Milsap (RCA).
10. (12) *I'm Still Crazy* — Vern Gosdin (Columbia).

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



## ACROSS

- 1 In the center of 5 Stormed
- 10 Ott or Brooks
- 13 City on the Truckee
- 14 Where Greek met Greek
- 15 Diminish
- 16 Celebrates
- 18 Sacred image
- 19 Stallone, to friends
- 20 Broadway award
- 21 Egg quantities
- 23 Baseball swing
- 24 Scottish hillsides
- 25 Fleet
- 28 Title for Mehta
- 30 Like faulty pipes
- 31 Jeweler's weight
- 32 Wright wing
- 34 Capture
- 35 Cave — (beware of the dog)
- 36 Blanch
- 37 Violinist Bull
- 38 Sleights
- 39 "Lady" of song
- 40 Manages somehow
- 42 Bell or Darrow
- 43 Much, to 28 Across
- 44 Rip of the stage
- 45 Listener's choice
- 47 Pooped out
- 48 Lout
- 51 Use a strop
- 52 Hurries
- 55 He was Hawkeye
- 56 Type type
- 57 Trudge
- 58 "—, we have no..."

## DOWN

- 59 Fortification
- 60 — River, N.J.
- 1 Weaponry
- 2 Repeat
- 3 Jet black
- 4 John or Jane
- 5 Loretta Young role: 1936
- 6 Ten-percent great
- 7 Sensational
- 8 Flub
- 9 Reverie
- 10 Prepares
- 11 Harrow's rival
- 12 Camera's eye
- 15 "The Pearl" Fishers' composer
- 17 Peruse
- 22 Kilt
- 23 Use the oven
- 24 Reveals
- 25 Brahms' — Rhapsody
- 26 Domain
- 27 Atona
- 28 Tropical fruit
- 29 Stan's pal
- 31 Seabees' motto
- 33 Lecher's look
- 35 Salesman's quest
- 36 Chess piece
- 38 Soccer
- 39 Gardener's need
- 41 Divided land
- 42 Unnie
- 44 Eta's follower
- 45 Carriage
- 46 Metalware
- 47 Lose traction
- 48 Frogner Park city
- 49 Mighty mite
- 50 Gov. agents
- 53 Pub order
- 54 Fitting

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ABED TEPID CUT  
IGLOO ANISE ORE  
QUANTUM JUMP YAP  
SEC TRIPS APPLE  
KEENLY GROUSE  
APHID MATS  
SOON SHREW IPSO  
ALLS QUARK THEW  
POET URGES RYAN  
EVIL POSTS  
ALLIED GEMINI  
LEANS SEARS CSA  
BAY SUPERSTRING  
USE ERASE INSET  
MER LINED LAKE

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

## FORTUNE KNOCKS BUT ONCE

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH  
♠ Q 9 8 7 2  
♥ A 8 7  
♦ K J 8 4  
♣ A 5

EAST  
♠ 10 6 4 3  
♥ 7 3 2  
♦ Q J 10 5 4  
♣ 9 3

SOUTH  
♠ K J  
♥ K 9 6 4  
♦ A J 3  
♣ Q 10 5 2

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ 1 ♥ 1 ♠ Pass

1 NT Pass 3 ♠ Pass

3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♠

Dear Charlie:

One of my dearest possessions is a

leather card case given to me by my

mother. It is inscribed with an anon-

ymous quotation: "Life ain't hold-

in' the good cards. It's playin' a

bad hand well!" I was reminded of

this at a rubber bridge game in New

York arranged for me by Tannah

Hirsch. In that game, I held the

South cards and he was North.

We reached three no trump on a fairly normal auction. Had East seen my card case, I would not have made my contract. West made the normal lead of the queen of hearts, won performance in dummy. I had to knock out West's entry, but did not have a clue which black suit to attack. Eventually, I decided to lead a club.

Had East put his bad hand to good use, he would have risen with the ace of clubs and returned a heart, and the defense would have collected five tricks before I had my nine. But the defender played low, and my queen won. As a result, I decided West's entry was in spades, so I shifted the offense to that suit. West took the ace and persevered with a heart, but now it needed only routine technique to land the contract.

I ducked the jack of hearts, forcing West to abandon the suit. East won the club shift and reverted to hearts, but it was too late. I rose with the king and had nine tricks. Indeed, as the play developed, West discarded two diamonds, so I ended up with an overtrick. As ever, Omar



"Can you type 40 words a minute?"

## THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



## B.C.

By Johnny Hart



## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

One of your more grown up children will prove something of a disappointment to you. However you have nothing to reproach yourself with — you have done your best to provide a good upbringing.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Your life will tend to go off into a new direction. Take good care it is not a direction you would rather not steer into. And do not throw out the baby with the bathwater, i.e. stick to tried and proved values.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You are liable to get hold of the wrong end of the stick so take a little more care. Although you may have some good luck do not rely on luck to get you out of trouble.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will have to make a few changes and they should be considered carefully first. Before signing a contract make sure you have understood it completely: read the small print too.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You will have lots to do but you will be quite pleased with the way things are going. And your partner will be a great help to you. You will also be able to do something to further harmony between yourself.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will be able to do something that will please your partner and should not delay so doing. Make sure you are correctly dressed for the weather and occasion. Be determined.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

You are more liable to stray from the matter at hand and should make a conscious effort to concentrate. You should not dwell too much on the past, instead make the most of the present and look forward to the future. Be generous.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Avoid doing or omitting to do anything that might cause a distancing between you and your partner. You will be fortified in your resolve and more in touch with yourself.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Ensure you stick to your principles rather than abandoning them. And do not let your partner stew in his own juice, instead stand by him. Do not eat or drink so much that you put on weight, but do not starve yourself either. Be loyal.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

No good reproaching yourself excessively with something you have done wrong. Instead do your best to right it, and take steps to avoid a recurrence.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You should keep your mind on what you are doing and should not allow preconceptions to distort your judgment. Make sure you exercise regularly, but not the extent where you are left exhausted.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will have to deal with a rather tiresome person and should keep calm whilst doing so. Your lucky numbers are 16 and 43. There is a greater likelihood of mistakes both by you and by others so watch out for them.



## Getting down to Serious business

## A haircut like Einstein's

By Ivor Davis

AMERICA is about to get Serious — Yahoo Serious, that is. Warner Brothers has spent \$10 million to make sure it does. The studio has sent the Australian gentleman with the unlikely name ("You can't say it and not smile," he says) across the United States to laud the eccentric joys of "Young Einstein," a film by Yahoo Serious, starring Yahoo Serious, written, directed, edited and choreographed by Yahoo Serious, with music and stunts by Yahoo Serious.

Serious (born Greg Pead in a small mining town in Australia's Hunter Valley) is not your typical Aussie movie star: craggy half the teeth of a fleet of crocodiles around his hat and leaving love-stricken "shielas" in his wake.

Yahoo's hair is red (as in fire engine) and spiked (as in finger in the light socket). His coiffure was his first identification with Albert Einstein. "He was the only historical figure who had a haircut like mine," notes Serious, whose wardrobe runs heavily to shocking-pink jackets worn with orange paisley shirts and polka-dot socks.

His "Young Einstein," opening nationwide on Aug 4, is a million miles removed from his fellow film countryperson "Crocodile Dundee." This Einstein is a 26-year-old son of a Tasmanian apple farmer. He's an office clerk dressed in baggy shorts held up by suspenders, who discovers his famous E=mc squared formula while trying to force bubbles into his father's home-brewed beer.

In quick succession young Albert

falls in love with Marie Curie, discovers rock 'n' roll, invents the world's first surfboard and saves the Earth from atomic destruction, all while sporting an idiotic grin and a heart full of bonhomie. Conventional it isn't, but the zany concoction is held together by the sheer exuberance and physical high jinks of Serious in the title role.

The film was made Down Under for less than \$3 million and became one of Australia's biggest hits ever. The low price tag was possible because Serious and his closest friends did all the work. Well, almost all. Serious' "mum" cooked for cast and crew.

Strike Can lightning strike twice? Can Serious capture Yankee hearts as easily as the Australian variety? So far, the omens are good for this 35-year-

son of a tyre fitter and virtually self-educated filmmaker. Serious took his film to Harvard's Hasty Pudding Club where it brought the Ivy Leaguers to their feet. The highlight of the event came when Serious mixed a couple of sacks of pudding mix in a bathtub resting on the club's expensive Oriental rug, while pelting the assembled company with raisins. Serious then thanked them for appreciating the intellectual aspects of his film. More plebeian audiences may be drawn to the charms of Serious himself, a wide-eyed, sweet-spirited eccentric — "a cross between Lawrence of Arabia and Bugs Bunny," as he describes himself — for whom the film represents a life's work.

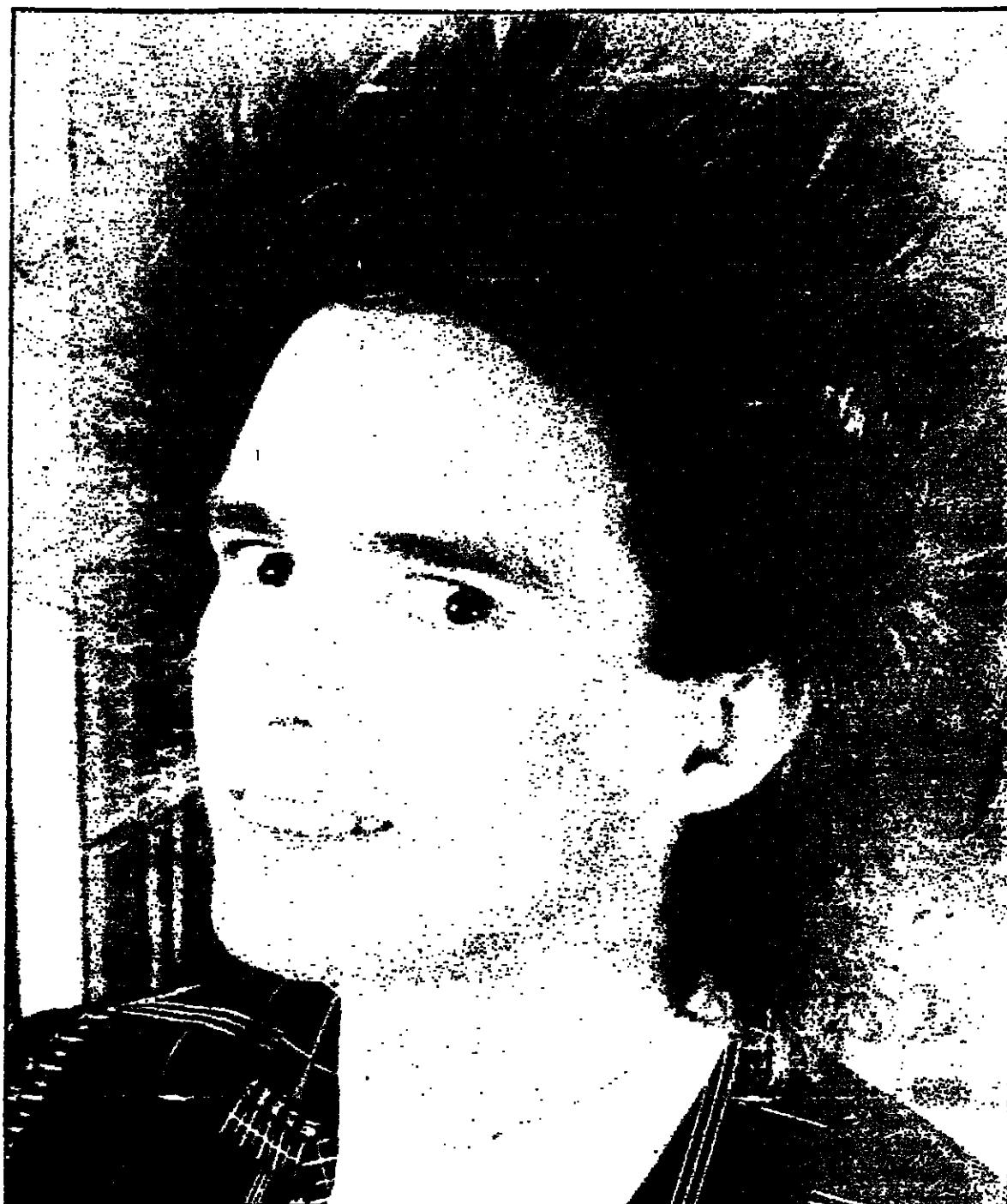
Sitting in the rarified confines of one of Hollywood's most elegant hotels (Try asking a rather snobby concierge for Mr Yahoo Serious' room) in a paisley jacket over a flowered shirt, Serious munches on a Chinese chicken salad and explains the philosophical underpinnings to his choice of alter ego. He says he first began thinking about the father of relativity on a trek through the Amazon, when he came upon a native wearing an Einstein T-shirt.

"It's a love story," he says, "between two of the greatest minds of the 20th century. It's about a shy, gentle genius who doesn't carry a gun or a knife, but a musical instrument." The viola, as part of an attempt to escape from a lunatic asylum (Don't ask!), is later transformed into the world's first electric guitar.

Underneath the off-the-wall hair and clothes is a conventionally handsome, 6-foot-tall, red-thin actor who moves on-screen like a cross between Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton. But he didn't recognize his own talents, he explains, before he met Lulu Pinkus, his associate producer, friend, confidante and Mrs Yahoo Serious. It was she who recognized the potential of the pratfalls, stunts and dance movements he now performs as if they were second nature.

"Lulu is a city girl, so I was showing her a creek near my house that was flooded. I was jumping over poles and rocks and going across in lightning time. She said, 'Wow, that was incredible. It was like a Buster Keaton stunt.' Then she showed me some Keaton and Chaplin films and gave me the confidence to go out and do that sort of thing. Because I'm naturally shy."

In "Young Einstein," this retiring fellow who talks a mile a minute, his words stumbling over each other as his tongue struggles in vain to keep up with his brain, climbs a mountain without ropes, falls out of windows, gallops across Australia like a rodeo rider and gives the film its absolutely irrepressible good spirits.



Yahoo Serious: his hair is red (as in fire engine) and spiked (as in finger in the socket).

"You can put that all down to Yahoo," says his co-producer and best friend David Roach. "He has a sort of rampant enthusiasm that you usually only find in a small dog. You can't help getting caught up in it."

One of those caught was Warner Brothers head Terry Semel, who, after a look at a rough cut of the movie hand-carried from Australia, announced, "I want to be in the Serious business."

"The head of our major film chain in Australia had been to see him 10 years before with 'Mad Max,'" explains Serious, "and Semel had asked him then if he wanted to show him anything else. The next thing he thought was worth showing was 'Young Einstein.'"

What pleases him most, however, says Serious, is that in Australia the film crossed all barriers of age, race, religion and class. It appealed to kids from 4 to 80, says its creator. And

while he might reasonably be expected to be apprehensive about its reception in the States, he swears he is not. Money means nothing to him, he says, and success is being happy with the work he's done. And he is happy with "every frame of it." "I try to enjoy the moment," he explains, "the space we're in, everything that's happening."

A simple sentiment, but one surely worthy of the great Einstein himself.



Yahoo Serious in young 'Einstein,' which he wrote, directed, edited and choreographed.

## Filipinos lust after blood and gore

By Claro Cortes

MANILA (AP): Cockfighting in the Philippines isn't for the chicken-hearted. It's big business, bloody business and a national pastime for aficionados both rich and poor and powerful.

Although cockfighting is illegal in many countries because it is considered inhumane, there is no pressure at all in the Philippines to ban the practice.

Cockfighting predates the arrival of Spanish colonizers in the 16th century. Many Filipino men attend cockfights faithfully.

It is an arcane business in which trainers boast of "secret formulas" including special diets to invigorate their birds, or of blowing smoke in the beaks to ready prize birds for combat.

Rep. Ramon Mitra, Speaker of the House of Representatives, says one of the things he misses most as a public servant is the time to train his gamecocks.

Mitra, who is raising about 1,600 birds on a farm 320 kilometres (200 miles) southeast of Manila, said

he likes nothing more than to watch his prize roosters battle their opponents.

"If it's my bird, I enjoy watching it," Mitra said. Another prominent aficionado is Rep. Jose Cojuangco, brother of President Corason Aquino. Cojuangco attended a cockfight this month at his sugar plantation in which bets ranged up to 300,000 pesos (\$14,200) a fight, the Philippine Daily Inquirer reported.

Major cockfights are held Sundays and public holidays at about 500 large arenas, or "cockpits" nationwide. Small-scale fights are held every day on street corners and in vacant lots.

Occasionally, plush hotels sponsor cockfights in their ballrooms for the benefit of tourists.

Cockfighting provides a livelihood for thousands of people.

Vicente Garrido, 69, said he sent his daughter to medical school on earnings as a "krisito," the person who takes bets during cockfights.

"Krisitos" usually earn their money from the bettors.

"My mother sold foodstuffs inside a cockpit near our place when I was 14 and so I practically grew up knowing the ins and outs of cockfighting. I know of no other profession and I'm not looking for one," Garrido said.

Cockfights are brief and bloody. Two fighting birds, with razor-sharp blades affixed to their legs, attack one another until only one is left alive.

In the occasional instance in which both roosters are still alive after 10 minutes, the bout is traditionally declared a draw.

Cheating, such as drugging a bird or breaking one of its legs before a fight, is rare. Offenders usually are beaten in public.

Roosters are matched against those of comparable weights. Some "cockpits" offer special matches called "carambola," where five or more birds are put in the ring at the same time to fight it out until only one remains.

Betting is done by hand signals, and bets are paid immediately after each fight. Before the roosters are

released for combat, the arena falls silent as spectators wait the first deadly blow.

Spectators begin shouting as one rooster gains the advantage.

Every cockfighter has his own method of training his birds.

Some owners raise their birds with ordinary chicken mash, while other birds receive special diets of feeds made up of sorghum, wheat, peas and corn grits.

More affluent owners even add dog food or ground meat, milk, apples and fresh green vegetables. Some birds are also given vitamins.

Some cockfighters look at a rooster's legs and "read" the scales to determine a winner. Others check the colour of the feathers as a sign of combativeness.

A full-grown rooster sells for about \$14 but prizefighters can fetch prices of about \$230 apiece.

Imported gamebirds, usually from the United States, cost about \$700. Most of the imported birds are used only for breeding to improve the stock.

## Music videos



The Pogues: one of the best live acts in the UK

Pogues live: Led by Shane MacGowan, the singer-songwriter with perhaps the worst and the least teeth in show business, the Pogues are considered one of the best live acts in the UK. Eight people who play traditional Irish music with all the fire and fury of punk. They use traditional Irish instruments of tin-whistles, accordion, fiddles and hands-drums as well as the more usual guitar and bass and set it all to a fiery mix of Irish and punk music. The Pogues' live set is usually a mixture of songs that are written by Shane — mostly stories of Irishmen in London where he grew up — and they stand alongside their treasured folk classics, some of which are centuries old.

The video concert was filmed on March 17, 1988, St. Patrick's Night at the Town and Country. The Pogues step onstage to loud cheers from the capacity crowd and begin with a rousing stomping number which immediately provokes a storm of dancing and leaping. The music fiesta has begun. A couple of songs later, guest Kiray MacColl joins Shane to duet on 'Fairytale of New York'. By now the band has loosened up, no doubt helped by the glasses or bottles of the 'demon-brew' that mysteriously pops up onstage. Apart from being a great live group, the Pogues have also earned themselves the reputation of being the hardest drinking act in the country. Between each song, we are taken backstage where Joe Strummer, ex-The Clash, gives his expert opinions on the musical abilities of the band members. Later, he joins the band onstage to perform 'London Calling' the Clash's classic foot stomper. Other guest artists including Lynval Golding and After-Tonight also turn up and at the show's end the London-Irish Hillbillies have turned the Town and Country into an ecstatic, sweat-soaked cauldron.

What makes the Pogues a great live group is their refreshing, down-to-earth, 'ordinary-folk' image. There is no unnecessary posturing or starry-airs from the band members. There's no laser lights or stage effects which is the norm of so many of the contemporary pop groups. Just an ordinary rock 'n' roll band playing the music that they love best.

The lively music and party atmosphere of this video concert makes you wish you were part of the audience who obviously had the time of their lives. Recommended to fans of both country-folk and pop music.

Running time 60 mts. approx.

Depeche Mode 101: IS a film about 4 young Englishmen. Friends who grew up together to form one of the most successful new age electronic pop groups of the 80's — Depeche Mode.

Depeche Mode are decidedly not your ordinary run-of-the-mill rock band. They have no written contract with their record company (Indie label 'mute'). Just a hand-shake agreement. The band has no manager. They handle the job themselves. They are a synthesizer band in every sense of the word, i.e. they use no guitars and haven't got a drummer. Just 3 keyboards, a vocal-microphone and a tape-recorder. The group projects no real image, which is probably the reason why they get off causing a controversy over the lyrics of some songs, example *Master and Servant* that uses sexual angles in a specific way, or *Blasphemous Rumours* which is about a girl who attempted suicide by slashing her wrists.

The film itself is about their '88 American tour. From the touch down of their plane on American soil we follow Depeche Mode from city to city as they play live, culminating in their final concert (the 101st) at the Rose Bowl Stadium in Pasadena, California, where seventy thousand people have gathered to watch a spectacle of music and lights performed by four friends using synthesizers and nothing much else — except talent. Also, through interviews, rehearsals and conversation we gain some fascinating insights on the lives of the musicians and their music.

Depeche Mode are Andrew Fletcher, Alan Wilder, vocalist David Gahan and main songwriter Martin Gore.

Running time 117 mts.

By Johnson Gilbert  
Music Videos by courtesy  
The Video Club, Salisbury

Tel: 5724372.

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: I'm basically a thin person, but I have cellulite on my hips and thighs. Is there anything special I can do to get rid of this? Can you explain what cellulite is?

ANSWER: Cellulite is really no different from regular fat. It is a word used to describe the "umpy, orange peel" appearance of fat that most frequently appears on women, mainly on their hips, thighs and buttocks. Researchers have compared fat biopsies taken from people with cellulite deposit areas with fat taken from people free of cellulite. They found that the fat is essentially the same. The ripple-like appearance is thought to be the result of connective tissue that envelops each fat cell and separates the cells into compartments. These cells bulge as more fat is stored in them, due to weight gain.

Although some men are afflicted with cellulite, more women develop the problem because their outer layer of skin is thinner and female areas of fat are larger and more rounded.

If you are thin, but have patches of cellulite in the common areas, then it will be tough, if not almost impossible, to get rid of

it. Unfortunately, fat does not always accumulate evenly over the entire body, but in areas of high concentrations in some anatomical areas. There is no such thing as spot reduction, and I advise you against believing any advertisements that promise such results.

In reality, exercise, along with a low-calorie diet will help take fat off from all areas of your body, and may be of some help. Exercising the areas where you have cellulite will tone the underlying muscles, but it won't necessarily remove fat from that area of the body.

QUESTION: I've been having chest pains on and off for the past year. My doctor has done test after test to find out if I was going to have a heart attack, but he found no cardiac origin for my problem. After more testing, he told me I have an esophageal spasm, and this was causing the chest pain. Does this make any sense to you?

ANSWER: Yes, it does, although the problem is not a common one. Esophageal spasm has been documented as the cause of a typical chest pain in a number of patients. The pain is a typical because it produces no characteristic pain, and its symptoms vary

far more than heart problems, such as angina.

Esophageal pain is often described by patients as a "pressure," "constriction," or a "burning sensation." The attacks are often related to eating. Doctors are not 100 per cent sure of why abnormal contractions in the body of the esophagus produce chest pain.

The best way for a doctor to treat the problem is with reassurance that the cause of your pain is not life-threatening. Various drugs have been used to treat the pain, such as calcium-channel blockers, hyalalazine, antacids or nitrates, but the results have been less than dramatic. An operation which surgically dissects the muscle of the esophagus is helpful to a very limited number of patients with this condition.

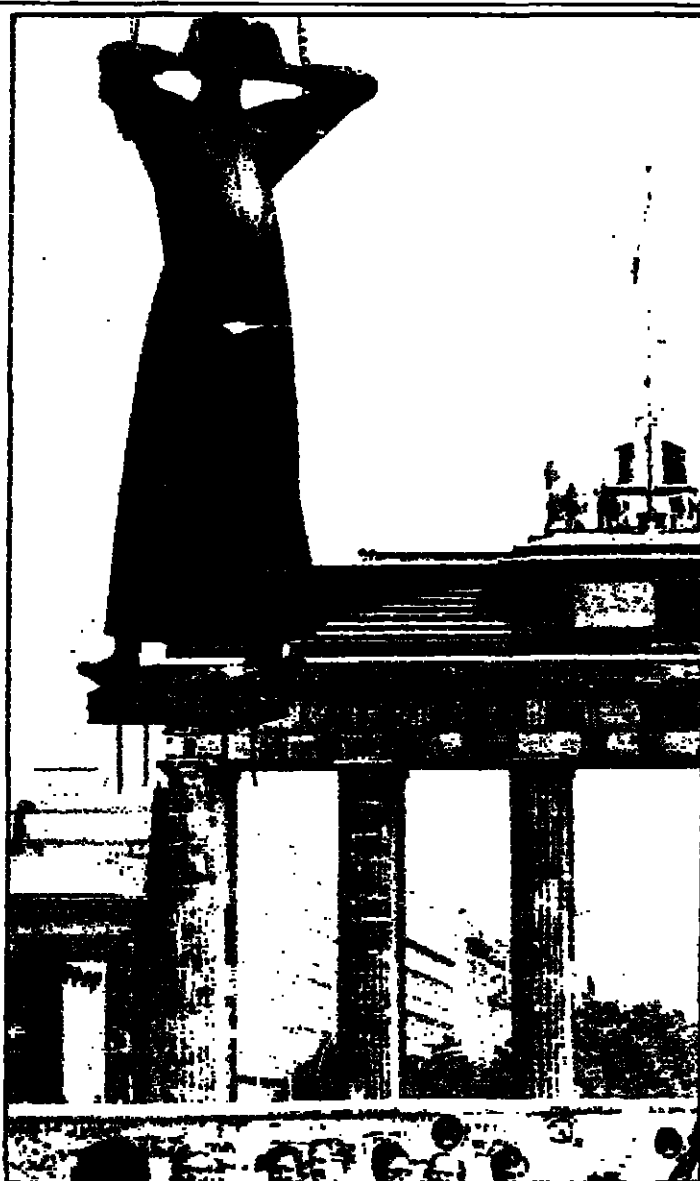
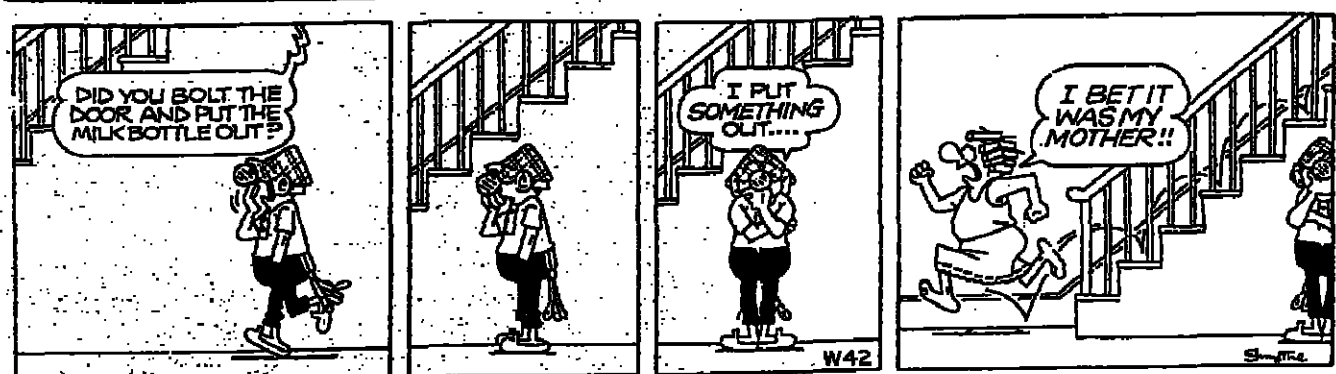
You may find that the knowledge of the nature of the problem can reduce your own natural anxiety about such pain and may reduce the frequency of the attacks. Be careful in your use of pain medication, though; it's easy to get hooked in situations such as yours.

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## CELLULITE IS DIFFICULT TO SHED

By Smith

## ANDY CAPP



## Symbol of freedom

Gerhard Marcks' sculpture "Der Ruler" is here seen hanging on crane ropes before being put in position close to the Brandenburg Gate in West Berlin. It is meant to emphasise Berliners' wish for the removal of the Wall, thrown up by the GDR.



# ARAB TIMES Classifieds

# MARKET PLACE

## ACCOMMODATION

### Available

NEW Kheitan, with water, electricity and kitchen facilities. Pakistani bachelor required to share a room with another single person. Rent KD25. Tel. Shafiq Chowdhury, 3262800, 9 am - 3:30 pm. (AT6-48798-2)

SALWA, House 196, Block 7, Street 4, behind the Irani bakala. One large room with water and electricity for a family to share with an Indian family. Rent KD50. Tel. 5811243. (AT6-48830-3)

SALMIYA, Amman Street, near the garden. Sharing accommodation in a spacious flat with separate kitchen, toilet and two bedrooms for a small family or two bachelors from 1st September. Tel. Hamid, 5633880. (AT5-48808-3)

KUWAIT City, Sharq, behind the fire station. Sharing accommodation for one or two bachelors or a couple (Indians only). Single bachelor preferred. Tel. 2447639. (AT1-48866-3)

RUMATHIYA, one room fully furnished with kitchen and tele facilities available immediately for a single person. Tel. 2438120, 8 am - 5 pm. 5613895 after 6 pm. (AT1-48871-3)

SALMIYA, near Edees Store. One room in a two-bedroom flat with water, electricity and tele facilities for an Indian bachelor. Rent KD50. Tel. 4344188 ext. 258, 277. (AT1-48872-2)

SALMIYA, Baghdad Street. One room in a 2 bedroom flat for a Goan bachelor to share with a Goan family. Tel. Mr. Jacob, 2541824/5, 7 am - 4 pm. (AT1-48832-2)

SALWA, wanted Europeans to share a furnished villa. Tel. 4717911 ext. 233, 9013310. (AT1-48852-3)

### For Rent

JABRIYA, lovely villa, ground floor with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, sitting room, dining room, kitchen including private entrance. Rent KD380. Tel. 5332484 (no agent) (AT6-48824-3)

### FOR SALE

#### Cars

LOTUS Turbo Spirit 1981, black with tan leather interior, excellent engine and transmission. KD5,000 or nearest offer. Tel. 9033069. (AT6-48833-6)

HONDA Civic, 1986, out 12/86, only 31,000 kms. AC, automatic in excellent condition. KD1400. Tel. Omar Huseini, 5716301, 5-10 pm. (AT2-48740-6)

NISSAN Sunny 1.6 GL '86 automatic, brown metallic, in excellent condition. Tel. 2425995, 2430718, 8 am - 1 pm, 4 - 7 pm. (AT1-48826-3)

TOYOTA Corolla, deluxe, manual with AC, one year insurance, in very good condition. KD350 cash. Tel. Mohd Naeem, 4714858, 7 am - 8 pm. (AT6-48837-2)

CITROEN BX16 1986, AC, fully automatic, in excellent condition. KD1100 cash. Tel. Khaled, 5717052, 6 - 10 pm. (AT1-48858-3)

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HONDA Accord 1984, dark blue, automatic, AC, 4 doors, sunroof, insured upto May 1990, 61,000 kms. One owner, in excellent condition, KD1500 or by instalments. Tel. 2403260. (AT5-48818-3)

TOYOTA Crown, Super Saloon 1983, red, automatic, 64,000 kms, 4 doors, AC, one owner, insured upto June 1990, in good condition KD1150. Tel. 2407677. (AT5-48818-3)

TOYOTA Cressida GL 82, white, automatic, AC, 70,000 kms, insured upto Feb 1990, in very good condition, KD1,100 cash or instalments. Tel. 5655952. (AT5-48818-3)

MAZDA 929, 1986, fully automatic, in very good condition. KD 1325 cash. Tel. Mohd Naeem, 4714858, 7 am - 8 pm. (AT6-48837-2)

NISSAN Bluebird 1.8 GL '86 model fully automatic, chocolate colour, in excellent condition. Tel. Sami, 2425995, 2430718, 8 am - 1 pm, 4 - 7 pm. (AT1-48826-3)

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TOYOTA Corolla, deluxe, manual with AC, one year insurance, in very good condition. KD350 cash. Tel. Mohd Naeem, 4714858, 7 am - 8 pm. (AT6-48837-2)

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SIEMENS 27" Television, 3 system remote control, in Darweza Abdul Razzaq for sale. Tel. 2408703, 10 - 12 noon, 5 - 8 pm. (AT6-48829-2)

NUGRA, Mouse Bin, laser street, beside the Bostan Grocery Shop, 2 bedroom flat with 2 bathrooms, including furniture, for sale. Rent KD130. Tel. Alex, 2662134, 8 am - 1 pm, 5 - 9 pm. (AT5-48811-3)

SALMIYA, furniture and electrical appliances to sell at reasonable prices. Tel. 2432434, 2422822 during office hours, 5713134, Res. (AT5-48800-3)

COMPLETE household furniture and kitchenware, books, toys, plants and British ladies clothes in good condition for sale. Tel. 5338995. (AT1-48860-3)

LATEST JVC video camera recorder GF450 VHS/Pal recently purchased. Company replaced impaired zoom, lens with new one. Barely used. Tel. Mr Khan, 3723510, 4 - 7 pm. (AT1-48861-2)

HOUSEHOLD items in good condition for sale. Tel. Abu Raza, 3924753, 9 am - 6 pm. (AT6-48820-3)

SALMIYA, Khansa Street. 2 bedroom flat, price KD2,000, ono. Rent KD180. Suitable for a couple or bachelors. Tel. 5729997 ext 287, time 1 - 4 pm only. (AT5-48815-3)

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اللہ کے نام سے پڑھئے  
ہر روز اور ہر لمحہ

یقیناً ان لوگوں نے کہہ دیا کہ اللہ تعالیٰ جارا  
رب سے پڑھئے ان کے لئے  
گوئی خدایہ اور وہ نہیں ہوں گے  
آیت ۱۰ سورہ اعراف (نہ)



حدیث نبویؐ

حضرت ابن عباس رضی اللہ عنہما روایت کرتے ہیں کہ میں نے نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کو ارشاد فرمایا کہ میں نے تم کو اللہ کے رسول کے طور پر دیکھا ہے۔ نبی نے فرمایا کہ میں نے تم کو اللہ کے رسول کے طور پر دیکھا ہے۔ نبی نے فرمایا کہ میں نے تم کو اللہ کے رسول کے طور پر دیکھا ہے۔

عقل و دانش

کیا آپ جانتے ہیں کہ لوگ آپ کی تعریف کرتے ہیں یا آپ تعریف کرتے ہیں؟

شعر و ادب

تھری ایک دانی دکھ ہے حیات کا  
تھری بے حساب شقت کا نام ہے

آنکھوں کے

۱۵۹۱ء... ایک نئی جہان پر نظر کر لیا۔  
۱۶۲۱ء... ملواریہ کے سر کی سہیل دی

۱۸۵۹ء... آسٹریا پر پشوا فرانس پر طاریہ  
۱۹۱۳ء... بیجو نائی میں برطانوی جرنیل کے

۱۹۲۰ء... اٹالیوی فوجوں نے جنگ عظیم دوم میں  
۱۹۴۰ء... برطانیہ کی فوجوں نے جنگ عظیم دوم میں

۱۹۸۵ء... شہر کرد باغیوں نے عراق میں

۱۹۸۵ء... شہر کرد باغیوں نے عراق میں

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بسی انتظامیہ کے کارکنوں نے پناہ گزینوں کو دیکھ کر رونا شروع کیا

### افغان مجاہدین کے لیے امریکی ریسیسین واضح تبدیلی کے آثار

واشنگٹن، ۱۹ اگست (ایس پی پی)۔ امریکی ریسیسین افغان مجاہدین کے لیے واضح تبدیلی کے آثار دکھائی دے رہے ہیں۔ امریکی ریسیسین افغان مجاہدین کے لیے واضح تبدیلی کے آثار دکھائی دے رہے ہیں۔ امریکی ریسیسین افغان مجاہدین کے لیے واضح تبدیلی کے آثار دکھائی دے رہے ہیں۔

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## SPORTS

## W. Germans and Australians reach final

IPON, Malaysia, Aug. 18. (Reuters) West Germany and Australia will meet in the final of the Junior Hockey World Cup tomorrow after yesterday's high-scoring semi-final encounters with South Korea and Pakistan respectively.

Australia edged out the favourites Pakistan 4-3 and the West Germans thrashed the Koreans 6-2.

Australia were given a good start when Stephen Davies scored with a reverse flick in the

second minute.

Tariq Sheikh and Qamar Ibrahim, with a penalty corner, replied to give Pakistan a 2-1 lead at halftime but the Australians fought back superbly in the second half.

Chris Taylor levelled after 42 minutes and Davies then scored a brilliant solo goal two minutes later to give his side the lead. Greg Corbit added a fourth in the 61st minute before

Qamar scored from his second penalty corner a minute from time.

The highly-organized West Germans never looked like losing from the moment Frederick Ness converted a penalty corner in the 27th minute. Michale Waldhouser scored a second four minutes later and Andre Scheifer's 34th minute goal gave them a comfortable 3-0 half-time advantage.

They continued to pose the South Koreans

problems after the interval and added further goals in the 37th and 49th minutes through Thomas Brinkman and Andre Becker.

South Korea replied through Kita Tae-Hyung in the 58th minute but Christian Blumel made it 6-1 to West Germany seven minutes later. The South Koreans managed a further consolation effort from Yun Jung-Hwan three minutes from the end.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Steroid use

TORONTO, Aug. 18. (Reuters) An athletics official here first-time reports of anabolic steroid use by elite Canadian athletes six months before the Seoul Olympics, a federal inquiry heard on Wednesday. Rolf Lund, a member of the Canadian Track and Field Association (CTFA) board of directors, said he did not pursue the issue for fear of disrupting Olympic preparations.

## Prize money

ZURICH, Aug. 18. (Reuters) Res Bruegger, promoter of Europe's richest athletics meeting, believes increased prize money is necessary to persuade some top athletes to compete against each other more often.

## Drug tests

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Aug. 18. (Reuters) The newly-formed ATP tour which will operate the men's tennis circuit in 1990 announced yesterday that it had decided to enforce an expanded drug-testing programme next year.

## Top player

MONTREAL, Aug. 18. (Reuters) World's best tennis player Ivan Lendl is so consumed with winning Wimbledon that he intends to skip next year's French Open that has eluded him.

## Record Open

MIAMI, Aug. 18. (Reuters) Chris Evert has decided to take part in a record 19th US Open championship, the women's International Tennis Association announced on Wednesday.

## Overt slammed

LONDON, Aug. 18. (Reuters) British athletics writer slammed an attack on former Olympic champion Steve Ovett yesterday, claiming he had brought the sport into disrepute. They described Ovett's allegations about cash payment as unsubstantiated.

## Skins game

NEW YORK, Aug. 18. (Reuters) Jack Nicklaus and Lee Trevino will take on defending champion Ray Floyd in this year's \$450,000 Skins game, the organisers announced on Wednesday.

## Title fight

BRISBANE, Australia, Aug. 18. (AP) World Boxing Council lightweight champion Jeff Harding (Australia) will defend his title against English veteran Tom Collins in Brisbane on October 24, promoter Bill Mordue announced yesterday.

## Boxer arrested

KILLEEN, Texas, Aug. 18. (AP) Five-time Army boxing champion Brian Lonzo's spot on the US team for next month's World Boxing Championships in Moscow was in jeopardy following his arrest on a charge of possession of cocaine.

## Olympic symbols

OSLO, Norway, Aug. 18. (AP) Organisers of the 1994 Olympic Winter Games at Lillehammer (LOOC) agreed yesterday to pay Norway's Olympic committee 80 million kroner (\$11.25 million) for the right to use Olympic symbols and trademarks, the parties announced.

## Long future

NEW YORK, Aug. 18. (UPI) Edwin "Chapo" Rosario, an 11-year veteran who is on his third tour as lightweight champion, Wednesday said he still has a long future in boxing beyond his Aug. 27 title defense against Lupe Stantz.

## 10-round bout

SAN JOSE, Calif., Aug. 18. (UPI) Former heavyweight boxing champion George Foreman will fight Michael Green, the World Boxing Council's No. 3-ranked cruiserweight, in San Jose on Sept. 14 in a scheduled 10-round bout.

## IBF bout

BERLIN, Aug. 18. (AP) Graciano Rocchigiani of West Germany will defend his International Boxing Federation (IBF) supermiddleweight title against American Frank Tate in October, said promoter Wilfried Sauerland yesterday.

## Rose escapes

NEW YORK, Aug. 18. (Reuters) Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose, already battling charges of illegal gambling, survived another brush with authority when the National League decided yesterday not to suspend him over an incident with an umpire.

## Horse plague

SEVILLE, Spain, Aug. 18. (Reuters) Spanish authorities said on Wednesday that 23 horses had died in a suspected new outbreak of African horse plague in the southern province of Huelva.

## Cubans barred

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18. (AP) The US State Department said it invoked a 1985 presidential proclamation to bar seven Cubans from attending a baseball tournament in Puerto Rico. No explanation was given for this action.

## \$925,000 chance

DALLAS, Aug. 18. (AP) The Dallas Mavericks' No. 1 draft pick, Randy White, has turned down a \$925,000 chance to play for Dallas this year to explore an offer in northern Greece.

## Lendl edges Arias

## McEnroe tames Reneberg

MONTREAL, Aug. 18. (Reuters) Top seed Ivan Lendl edged past Jimmy Arias, and second-seeded John McEnroe outwitted Richey Reneberg to reach the quarterfinals of the \$742,500 Canadian Open tennis championships yesterday.

Lendl, hardly playing up to his world number one status, beat 16th seed Arias 6-6, 6-1, 6-4, while McEnroe, despite his usual quota of on-court complaints, beat 15th-seeded Reneberg 6-3, 7-6 (7-4).

Lendl, playing in his first tournament since Wimbledon, expected trouble with his game this week — and he has had it.

There were some patches of good form in the second set, but overall, Lendl had problems. He served poorly — totalling 10 double-faults — and his lethal forehand consistently sprayed long past the baseline.

"I played well for a longer spell than I did yesterday, but when I played bad it was pretty bad," said Lendl, the defending champion. "When you haven't played matches it shows and luckily sometimes your instinct takes over."

After some sharp play in the first set, Arias' serve deserted him in the second.

The third set was something of

a see-saw, there was four breaks in the first eight games. Despite some sloppiness, Lendl saved two break points in the game and then broke Arias at 15-40 in the

10th game to claim victory.

The McEnroe and Reneberg match provided great entertainment.

After taking the first set with a

late break in the eighth game, McEnroe found himself in a real battle in the second set.

"I felt like Richey played a tremendous match," said McEnroe, who won last week's Indianapolis event. "When you win these type of matches you really feel like a professional. Richey is at the threshold of beating some big guys."

The players exchanged breaks twice in the second set to set up a tiebreaker, which saw Reneberg race to a 4-0 lead. That's when McEnroe showed his mettle, winning the next seven points for the match.

Earlier, third seed Andre Agassi escaped joining a list of upset victims by edging Kelly Evernden of New Zealand 6-2, 3-6, 7-5.

The American teenager trailed 4-1 in the final set before claiming his victory after fourth seed Tim Mayotte and fifth seed Kevin Curren had been eliminated.

"This was a great positive step forward for me," Agassi said. "I was able to keep my concentration and hang in there."

Mayotte was ousted by hard-hitting Venezuelan teenager Nicolas Pereira 6-3, 1-6, 6-3, and Curren lost to 12th-seeded Andrew Sznajder of Canada 6-2, 3-6, 7-5.



McEnroe returns a shot to Reneberg.

## Edberg survives close call

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Aug. 18. (Reuters) Stefan Edberg, the second-seeded Swede, survived the skills of the graceful Ramesh Krishnan of India to post a 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 victory in the third round of the \$602,500 ATP championship.

Edberg's serve-and-volley game was challenged by the smooth passing shots of Krishnan, ranked 10th, and around the net quickly turned into a tight battle.

Boris Becker, the top seeded West German, faced no challenge at all from India's other Davis Cup player, Vijay Amritraj. Becker, ranked number two in the world, dismissed the 35-year-old Amritraj 6-1, 6-0 in just 53 minutes.

Mats Wilander, seeded third, faced his good friend Niclas Kroon and at first found his motivation lacking before defeating his compatriot 6-3, 6-2.

Fourth-seeded Michael Chang took an easy 6-3, 6-3 victory over his fellow-American teenager Jim Courier.

Twelfth seed Andres Gomez of Ecuador scored the day's only upset by ousting sixth-seeded American Aaron Krickstein 3-6, 6-4, 6-5.

Edberg's game at first recalled the form that won him the Wimbledon title in 1988 as he swung in

kick serves and angled volleys to take the first set 6-4.

But after leading by a break in the second set, Edberg's form suddenly deserted him. The more Edberg sprayed balls left and right, the more skilful became Krishnan's touch volleys and delicate slices.

The Indian broke back to even the score at 3-3 on a careless volley error by the Swede, then broke Edberg again for 5-3 with a lightning quick return. Krishnan served out the second set when Edberg hit a forehand long.

Edberg's concentration returned in the third set as Krishnan began to falter and the Indian double-faulted to drop serve and trail 3-1. Edberg then gave up just three more points on serve as he closed out the match 6-3.

"I had a problem finding the timing today," said Edberg of his lapses. "I just lost my concentration a little bit and I thought he played quite well."

Chang battled Courier from the baseline with both players powering their groundstrokes deep into the court. But Chang, a friend of Courier's from their junior days, rarely made an error and picked on Courier's more error-prone backhand.

"I didn't make any dumb errors," Chang said.

"Both sets were tight, especially at 4-3 in the second set. If Jim had won that game, it would have turned around."

## Mandlikova and Hanika in last eight

MAHWAH, N.J., Aug. 18. (Reuters) Jana Mandlikova and Sylvia Hanika survived the wave of upsets that have struck the \$200,000 Jersey Classic tennis tournament by scoring victories yesterday to reach the quarterfinals.

Mandlikova, the Czechoslovak-born Australian, advanced to a meeting against top-seeded defending champion Steffi Graf by scoring a 6-0, 7-6 (7-3) win over US qualifier Andrea Leand.

The fifth-seeded Mandlikova, the 1985 US Open champion, won 10 of the first 11 games before Leand stormed back to force a tiebreak.

"I became a little passive instead of keeping the pressure on," said Mandlikova, who won this tournament in 1980 and 1981.

Hanika, the eighth seed from West Germany, proved too experienced for American amateur Meredith McGrath, who fell 6-2, 7-5.

Upsets claimed sixth seed Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden, a semifinalist at Wimbledon this year, and seventh-seeded American Terry Phelps.

Pascalle Paradis of France, whose ranking has dropped to 193 after an extended period off the tour due to injuries, beat Lindqvist 6-3, 6-1 in just 55 minutes. Laura Gildemeister of Peru, now ranked 44th after taking last year off to become a mother, rallied to beat Phelps 2-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Besides Graf-Mandlikova, the other quarterfinal pairings are Linda Ferrando of Italy against Gildemeister, Andrea Temesvari of Hungary against Paradis, and Hanika against American Stacy Martin, who upset second seed Pam Shriver in the second round.

## Sheikh Fahd on inspection tour

BEIJING, Aug. 18. (KUNA) Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmad Al Sabah, president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), arrived here yesterday afternoon to inspect China's preparations for the 1990 Asian Games and to attend the Asian Handball Championships set to open here on Sunday.

The OCA president was met at the airport by He Zhenliang and Zhang Baifa, both vice-chairmen of the Asian Games organizing committee. The Games are set

for September next year.

Sheikh Fahd was quoted by the Xinhua news agency as saying at the airport that some people want to make use of the incidents in Beijing, more than two months ago, to split Asian sports circles.

"What happened in Beijing is entirely China's internal affairs, which no one has the right to interfere in," Sheikh Fahd was quoted as saying.

He hoped that the Chinese

government and the organising committee will stage the Games successfully.

Sheikh Fahd who is on his third visit to China, will hold talks with officials of the Chinese Olympic Committee and the Asian organising committee.

He will also inspect sports facilities in and around the Chinese capital, already completed or still under construction, for the Asian Games.

## Kingdom and Ivan take lead in GP standings

## Lewis powers home after bad start

NEW YORK, Aug. 18. (Agencies) Roger Kingdom of the United States, the world record holder in the men's 110-metre high hurdles, has taken the undisputed lead in the men's overall standings of the Mobil outdoor track and field Grand Prix.

The American's record clocking of 12.92 seconds in Wednesday's Weltklasse meet at Zurich, Switzerland, enabled him to break a three-way tie for the lead. He has a total of 51 Grand Prix points in 13 meets.

Meanwhile, Paula Ivan of Romania, the 1988 women's overall winner, moved closer to becoming the first woman to win two overall Grand Prix titles. Her 4:00.26 victory in the 1,500 metres gave her the lead with 49 points.

Sandra Farmer-Patrick of the United States and Merlene Ottey of Jamaica, both of whom are undefeated in Grand Prix events this season, are tied for second place with 45 points each. Ottey won the 100 metres in 11.07 and Farmer-Patrick took the 400-metre intermediate hurdles in 34.44.

Said Aouita of Morocco, the two-time and defending men's

overall champion, won the 5,000 in 13:24.45 and moved into a three-way tie for second among the men with 45 points. Also at 45 points are Robson da Silva of Brazil, who won the 200 in a 1989 world-leading 20.04, and pole vaulter Sergei Bubka of the Soviet Union, who did not compete at Zurich.

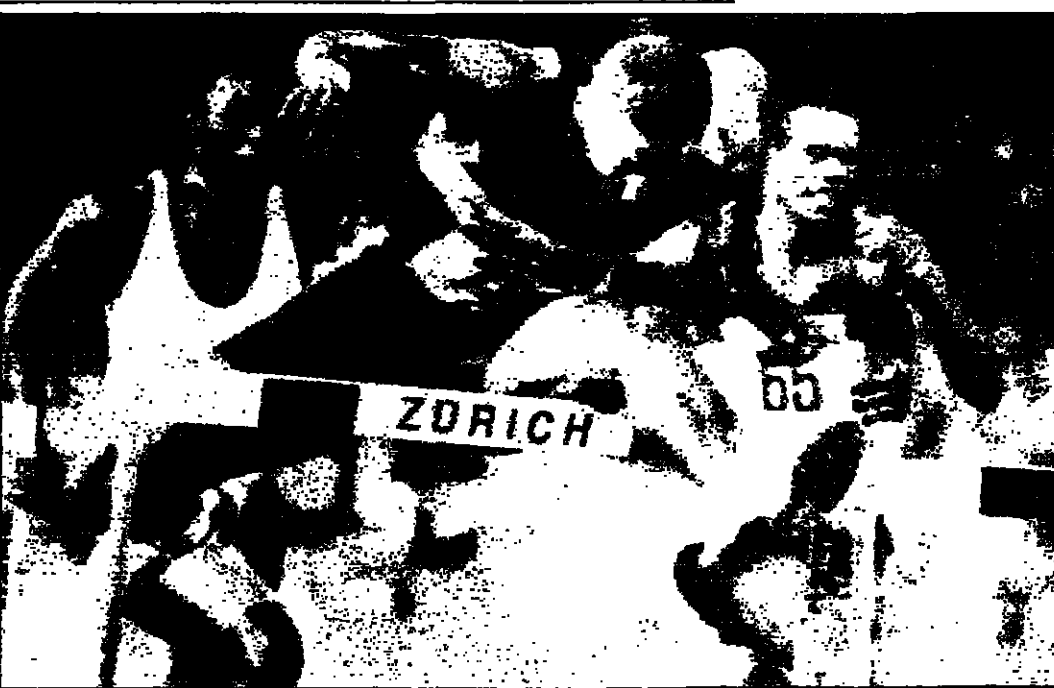
The Grand Prix is a series of 17 meets in 14 nations. It culminates Sept 1 with the Mobil Grand Prix final at Monte Carlo, Monaco.

On Wednesday, Kingdom blasted from his starting blocks and powered away from the field to improve by 0.01 of a second the mark set by fellow-American Renaldo Nehemiah here in 1981.

Kingdom, who pledged to break the world record this year after winning the world indoor crown in Budapest, was immediately mobbed by his jubilant rivals, who included Olympic silver medalist Colin Jackson and world champion Greg Foster.

Briton Jackson was second in 13.12 with American Foster a disappointing fifth in 13.26. Former world indoor champion Tommie Campbell of the United States came third in 13.23.

Nehemiah was to have com-



Kingdom in full stretch as he clears a hurdle on his way to the world record. (Reuters wirephoto)

peted but withdrew from the meeting hours before the start after a row with promoter Res Brugger over money.

Earlier Carl Lewis, double gold medalist in the Seoul

Games, swept to emphatic victory in a 100 metres race.

Lewis, a strong favourite with the Zurich crowd, powered home after another of his customary bad starts.



Athletics' third baseman Carney Lansford (left) gets a mouthful when Indians' Brook Jacoby steals third base. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Athletics beat Indians

## Cubs overcome Reds

NEW YORK, Aug. 18. (AP) John Franco failed in the clutch and Jerome Walton came through.

"I thought we had it wrapped up," Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose said. But he was wrong.

Walton, who earlier extended his hitting streak to 27 games, singled in two runs in the ninth inning as the Chicago Cubs completed their first sweep in Cincinnati since 1978, beating the Reds 3-2.

"I was real comfortable. I had no chills or nothing. I was real relaxed," Walton said.

The first-place Cubs extended their lead in the National League East to 4 and 1-2 games over the New York Mets. Rick Sutcliffe, 13-9, allowed five hits in eight innings.

Eric Davis' two-run homer had given the Reds a 2-1 lead in the eighth but Franco, 3-6, failed for only the fifth time in 30 save opportunities.

Padres 6, Mets 2

Bruce Hurst pitched his

National League-leading eighth complete game and San Diego scored four runs in the first inning.

San Diego salvaged final game of a three-game series and sent the Mets to only their second loss in 10 games. New York is 13-4 in August.

Hurst, 12-9, allowed nine hits, struck out three and walked two in beating Viola for the first time in four career meetings.

Viola, 1-2, gave up hits to the first four batters in the first. San Diego scored on run-scoring singles by Tony Gwynn and Luis Salazar. Chris James' RBI double and Carmelo Martinez's run-scoring groundout.

Athletics 1, Indians 0

Bon Welch continued his mastery of Cleveland and Dave Henderson homered in the fifth inning of Oakland's victory.

Welch, 13-7, allowed six hits, struck out six and walked one in eight innings. Dennis Eckersley, who has allowed only 20 hits this season, pitched a hitless ninth for his 25th save of the season.

Yankees 2, Tigers 1

Mel Hall's two-run single in the first inning held up as New York defeated Detroit. Greg Cadaret, 4-3, who was acquired from Oakland in the Rickey Henderson deal on June 21, allowed five hits, struck out a career-high seven and walked two before being relieved with two on and no outs in the eighth.

Brewers 8, Red Sox 4

Greg Vaughn went 3-for-4 and hit his first major league homer, keying a four-run fourth inning that carried Milwaukee over Boston, extending the Brewers' winning streak to seven games.

Results

American League	0
Oakland 1, Cleveland 6	
Baltimore 11, Toronto 6	
New York 2, Detroit 1	
Chicago 6, Texas 1	
Milwaukee 8, Boston 4	
Kansas City 4, Seattle 2	

National League	2
San Diego 6, New York 3	
San Francisco 10, Montreal 5	
Chicago 3, Cincinnati 2	
Los Angeles 10, Philadelphia 4	
Houston 5, Pittsburgh 3	

## Britain and Ireland score historic win

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 18. (Reuters) James Milligan chipped in from 50 feet on the 17th hole to help amateur golfers from Britain and Ireland hold off their American rivals yesterday and complete an historic 12-1/2 to 11-1/2 victory in the Walker Cup competition.

The triumph at Peachtree Golf Club was the first Walker Cup win for Britain/Ireland on US soil and marked the first time Britain/Ireland has held all three golf trophies — Ryder Cup (men's professionals with Europe), Curtis Cup (amateur women) and now Walker Cup — at once.

It was also the first British-Irish win in the series since 1971 and only their third in 32 competitions since the Walker Cup began in 1922.

The visitors dominated the first three rounds of the two-day event but were nearly overtaken in the final afternoon singles as the American team won five of eight matches.

Milligan, winner of the 1988 Scottish amateur, clinched the victory in the final match by rebounding from a three-stroke deficit on the 10th hole to halve against American Jay Sigel.

It was the third even match of the afternoon and gave the visitors the half-point they needed to win.

The hosts trailed 11-5 going into the final round but would have tied Britain/Ireland had Milligan lost final match.

Milligan's chip shot at the par-five 17 gave him a birdie and put him level with Sigel.

"I was just trying to hit it over the Bermuda rough. I was just trying to make a five," Milligan said.

Geoffrey Marks, non-playing captain for Britain/Ireland, said he had counselled Milligan to stay calm on "what was to be the most important shot of his life."

## England avenge defeat

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands, Aug. 18. (Reuters) A century by opener John Stephenson paved the way for England to avenge Wednesday's shock defeat by the Netherlands when the two teams met again in a 55-over match yesterday.

The young Essex batsman figured in an opening partnership of 113 with Somerset's Peter Roebuck, capturing an England team containing four players with Test experience.

Roebuck was dismissed for 60 but Stephenson then took charge, making 121 as England advanced to 261 for seven on a sunny day at this compact, tree-lined ground just outside Amsterdam.

It did look not an impossible target for the Dutch, who, although not part of the world's Test-playing elite, defeated England by three runs in a 40-over match on Wednesday, the first meeting between the two countries.

However they lost early wickets and it was left to skipper Steven Lubbers to give the innings some respectability. He top-scored with 32 and shared in a half-century partnership for the eighth wicket with Cees Ruskamp who remained unbeaten on 21.

England used seven bowlers with Northants all-rounder David Capel returning the best figures, taking three for 39.

## Scoreboard

ENGLAND	
P. Roebuck c Jansen b Aponso	80
J. Stephenson b Lelebre	121
R. Bailey run out	10
A. Stewart c Lelebre b Lubbers	18
N. Hussein c Gomes b Lubbers	5
M. Watkinson b Lubbers	11
D. Pringle not out	24
D. Capel run out	2
K. Medley not out	2
Extras (b-2 lb-8 w-4 nb-2)	14
Total (for seven wickets, 55 overs)	261
Fall of wickets: 1-112 2-156 3-179 4-214 5-231 6-244 7-261	
Did not bat: S. Watkin, S. Base	
Bowling: Jansen 11-0-82-0, Lelebre 11-1-32-1, Aponso 11-0-38-1, Coster 11-0-48-0, Lubbers 11-0-53-3	

## NETHERLANDS

F. Aponso c Capel b Medley	9
R. Vos lbw b Watkin	10
R. Linnam c Stewart b Capel	12
N. Clarke b Capel	12
R. Lelebre c Bailey b Base	11
R. Gomes c Roebuck b Pringle	22
P. Holland b Pringle	5
S. Lubbers c Base b Medley	31
C. Ruskamp not out	21
F. Jansen b Capel	0
J. Coster run out	0
Extras (b-5 w-9 nb-0)	6
Total (all out, 48.3 overs)	163
Fall of wickets: 1-22 2-22 3-41 4-53 5-87 6-92 7-101 8-154 9-154	
Bowling: Base 8-3-12-1, Watkin 9-0-37-1, Medley 8-3-1-25-2, Capel 7-0-39-3, Roebuck 2-0-10-0, Pringle 8-1-23-2, Watkinson 6-0-12-0	



## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Chess title

SKELLETFEA, Sweden, Aug. 18. (AP): Former world chess champion Anatoly Karpov suggested Wednesday that he might accept the world title if current titleholder and fellow Soviet, Garry Kasparov, refuses to defend his championship crown.

## Rugby match

DURBAN, Aug. 18. (Reuters): A sell-out crowd of 45,000, starved of foreign competition because of South Africa's sporting isolation, will greet an international rugby XV for the first match of their disputed tour tomorrow.

## Honorary citizen

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Retired basketball superstar Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was made an honorary citizen of the southern city of San Fernando yesterday during a visit to his ancestral homeland of Trinidad.

## Heart patients

GORSSEL, Netherlands, Aug. 18. (AP): Heart transplant patients from seven European nations gathered here Wednesday for a programme of track, field and other sports events meant to demonstrate they don't need to avoid strenuous activity, an organiser said.

## PLM Open

MALMO, Sweden, Aug. 18. (Reuters): West German Bernhard Langer snapped up five birdies in the first 12 holes to move into the lead at nine-under-par in today's PLM Open second round at Bokskogen.

## Transfer fee

LONDON, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Arsenal must pay Sheffield Wednesday £475,000 (\$735,000) for Icelandic midfielder Sigi Jonsson — almost 10 times more than their valuation, an English soccer league tribunal decided.

## British soccer

LONDON, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Results of British soccer matches played on Wednesday:  
Scottish League Cup second round  
Albion 0 Aberdeen 2  
Brechin 0 Falkirk 3  
Clydebank 3 Meadowbank 1  
Dundee 1 Patrick 0  
Hearts 3 Montrose 0  
Queen of S 1 St Johnstone 0

## Lagos stadium

LAGOS, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Nigeria yesterday suspended sporting events at the national stadium in Lagos where a professional football player and at least five fans died last Saturday.

## Soccer disaster

SHEFFIELD, England, Aug. 18. (AP): Prosecutors have ordered a criminal investigation into the deaths of 95 soccer fans in a soccer disaster that a government inquiry blamed primarily on inept policing, police said Wednesday.

## Ferguson wins

RALEIGH, North Carolina, Aug. 18. (AP): Kent Ferguson got high marks on a reverse one and 1-2 somersault with one and 1-2 twists, winning his first US 1-metre springboard title at the US Diving Outdoor Championships.

## W. German soccer

BONN, Aug. 18. (Reuters): West German First Division soccer results on Wednesday:  
Hamburg 1 Stuttgart 0  
Cologne 4 Kaiserslautern 0  
Karlsruhe 3 Bayern M 3  
Borussia D 1 Fortuna 0  
Eintracht F 4 Bochum 0

## Four-nation soccer

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 18. (UPI): Denmark will meet three North and Latin American countries in a four-nation tournament in Miami next February, the Danish Soccer Union has announced.

## Soviet boxers

MOSCOW, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Professional boxing, condemned for years in the Soviet Union as brutal and money-grubbing, arrives in a big way on Sunday with five fights involving local and foreign fighters. The programme, organised by the International Boxing Federation (IBF), consists of three four-round fights between Soviet professional debutants and US boxers and two bouts between international boxers, at Moscow's Dynamo Sports Complex.

## Enough is enough, exasperated Napoli warn Maradona

NAPLES, Italy, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Napoli manager Luciano Moggi yesterday threatened to discipline Diego Maradona for being late in reporting back to the club for the

start of the new soccer season. "We have passed the limits of tolerance. The time has come to say enough is enough," Moggi said.

"There is no longer sufficient explanation for his attitude, still less for his motivation. Therefore if his absence goes on much longer we will take all the measures open to us under soccer regulations," he added.

He was speaking a day after the Argentine World Cup captain failed to arrive on a flight he had booked to Italy.

The Italian season starts next week and Moggi said UEFA Cup winners Napoli had received no word from Maradona on when he now expected to return.

Moggi did not say what measures Napoli might take against Maradona.

Napoli had earlier given him an August 3 deadline for rejoining the club but later agreed he could return on August 16 and attend a 10-day rest and diet cure at a northern Italian clinic.

But Maradona was quoted by the Argentine newspaper La Nacion this week as saying he might not return to Italy until after the August 27 start of the Italian championship.

## English League kicks off today

Liverpool, Arsenal set to dominate again

LONDON, (Reuters): The English soccer League kicks off today against a backdrop of spiralling transfer fees, fears about ground safety and political disagreements.

But the quality of the goods on offer moves from strength to strength.

Hard-pressed by the off-field problems, English soccer authorities can take consolation from the fact that the game is as healthy on the field as ever.

Players like Gary Lineker, Ian Rush, John Barnes, Paul Gascoigne and Neville Southall are all of undisputed world class and, for all the departures to Europe, English clubs seem to spawn enough good young players to offer hope after the despair of the Hillsborough tragedy.

Excellence, though, comes with a hefty price tag. By the time the season swings into action, a record £34 million (\$54 million) in transfer fees will have changed hands since the end of the last campaign.

Chris Waddle's departure from Tottenham to Marseille for a British record £4.5 million (\$7.2 million) accounts for a large slice of the spending but four English clubs have splashed out £1 million or more on individual players.

Manchester United paid Nottingham Forest £1.5 million (\$2.4 million) for England international Neil Webb and Tottenham had to find a similar amount to sign Lineker from Barcelona.

Mike Newell, certainly not a household name, switched from Leicester to Everton for £1 million (\$1.6 million) and Clive Allen's return to English soccer



Lineker (left) and Rush: undisputed world class players



from Bordeaux also cost promoted Manchester City a seven-figure fee.

Even Vinny Jones, the much-criticised Wimbledon hard man, cost Leeds United £650,000 (\$1 million), prompting Aston Villa manager Graham Taylor to suggest that some clubs were behaving like "headless chickens" in the market.

Manchester United manager

Alex Ferguson sees things differently. Discussing United's £2 million (\$3.2 million) bid for Middlesbrough defender Gary Pallister, he was unequivocal.

"Hopefully our directors have now recognised that the Liverpool philosophy of buying the best is the only way," he said.

Most of the verbal wrangling in the lead-up to the new season, however, has been between the

Football League, who signed £7 million (\$11 million) sponsorship deal until 1993 and the players' union, the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA).

The League, desperate to be seen as giving the game a firm lead, elected new chairman Bill Fox as the man to ensure it.

His first act was to install PFA boss Gordon Taylor as the League's chief executive but that

bold initiative was promptly scuppered when the PFA decided to hold Taylor to his contract with them.

The resulting war of words has done neither side credit, particularly when soccer needs to present a united front against the ever-present threat of hooliganism.

A detailed report demanding better safety requirements and improved ground facilities has been released in the wake of the Hillsborough tragedy and clubs know they cannot sit back and rely on the goodwill of fans to prevent an awful repeat.

What would delight supporters and officials alike would be a season as consistently exciting and entertaining as last May's FA Cup final and championship finale.

Liverpool, memorable winners of the former and agonising runners-up to Arsenal in the latter, looked as strong as ever during last weekend's Charity Shield match against Arsenal at Wembley which they won 1-0.

Liverpool's Swedish international Glenn Hysen, a £650,000 (\$1 million) buy from Fiorentina, is tipped to be the signing of the season but, even though George Graham has stayed out of the transfer market, Arsenal appear determined to prove that their title victory was not merely a one-off.

Manchester United, Everton and big-spending Tottenham will all be snapping at the heels of the big two but the odds are that Arsenal and Highbury will once again be the focal points for the gradual rebirth of the English national game.

## Record British deal

## United sold for £20m

MANCHESTER, England, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Manchester United, one of the most famous soccer clubs in the world, was sold in a surprise deal worth over £20 million (\$31 million) — a record for a British club — today.

A consortium led by Isle of Man-based businessman Michael Knighton paid United chairman Martin Edwards £10.08 million (\$15.8 million) for his controlling interest in the English First Division club.

The buyers said up to £10 million (\$15.6 million) would be spent on redeveloping the club's famous Old Trafford ground. Edwards, chairman for nine and a half years, will stay on as vice-chairman and chief executive.

His family has been in control at Old Trafford since 1965 when Louis Edwards became chairman during Matt Busby's successful reign as manager.

But since Martin Edwards took over after his father's death in 1980, United's supporters have been increasingly disappointed by their side's lack of success. The club have not won the League championship since 1967.

Knighton, 37, a would-be professional footballer himself until he suffered a serious thigh injury as a junior with Coventry City, promised to give manager Alex Ferguson and the team his full support.

"I consider myself to be a football enthusiast first and a businessman second," he said. "But I also recognise that to continue the legend of Manchester United and provide the team that both the players and loyal supporters deserve, the club must have a solid financial base."

## France surprise Sweden

MALMO, Sweden, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Strikers Jean Pierre Papin and Eric Cantona scored two goals apiece to give France a 4-2 win over Sweden in a soccer friendly on Wednesday.

Marseille marksman Papin broke the 2-2 deadlock seven minutes from time when he blasted a right-wing cross from Cantona past Swedish goalkeeper Thomas Ravelli.

Cantona made certain of victory by adding the fourth goal for France from short range two minutes later.

It was a sweet triumph for French manager Michel Platini

and his fresh crop of talent who are out of the running for next year's World Cup finals after painful defeats by Yugoslavia and Scotland.

For the Swedes, facing England on September 6 in a vital World Cup qualifier, it was a dress rehearsal which started well but went wrong.

Swedish midfielder Jonas Thern, who recently signed for Portugal's Benfica, opened the scoring in the fifth minute with a searing blast from 20 metres into the top left corner of goalkeeper Joel Bats's net.

## Gillingham equals world mark

BONN, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Olympic silver medalist Nick Gillingham equalled the world 200 metres breaststroke record today to give Britain their second world mark of the European Swimming Championships.

Gillingham clocked two minutes 12.90 seconds to match the mark set in Los Angeles on Aug 3 by American Mike Barrowman and subjected Olympic world and European champion Jozsef Szabo of Hungary to a rare defeat in the process.

Gillingham, 24, went out fast — over a second inside world record schedule at the halfway mark — and was never threatened as he won by nearly three seconds from surprise Irish silver medalist Gary O'Toole.

O'Toole overhauled Szabo on the third length and claimed Ireland's first medal in 2:15.73, leaving the powerful Hungarian third in 2:16.05.

Gillingham joined Moorhouse in the world-record book after his team-mate broke the five-year-old 100 breaststroke mark of American Steve Lundquist on Tuesday.

Artur Wojdat had earlier captured Poland's second title when he won the 400 metres freestyle to

follow up Rafal Szukala's success in Wednesday's 100 butterfly which accounted for his country's first-ever European crown.

Catherine Plewinski of France ended East Germany's run of eight straight wins in the first eight women's swimming events when she outspurred her rivals in the 100 butterfly.

Plewinski, bronze medalist behind two East Germans in 1987, turned the tables to leave East Germans Jacqueline Jacob (1:00.42) and Kathleen Nord (1:00.81) with silver and bronze.

Susanne Boernike put East Germany back on the winning track, completing a personal double by adding the 100 metres breaststroke crown to the 200 breaststroke title she collected on Wednesday.

Third at the halfway mark, Boernike surged to the front to win in 1:09.55, condemning Bulgarian Olympic champion Tania Dangalakova to second place in 1:09.39.

West Germany claimed their first swimming gold of the week in the men's 4x100 freestyle relay in which less than a tenth of a second separated the first four finishers.

Olympic bronze medalist

## Dope testing sought at all swim meets

BONN, Aug. 18. (Reuters): Two Olympic swimming champions launched a campaign today to get dope tests introduced at all major international swimming meetings, threatening a boycott of events which refused to enforce them.

Olympic champions Adrian Moorhouse of Britain and West Germany Michael Gross signed a petition demanding random dope tests in training and an extension of tests already applied at Olympics, European and world championships to all international events.

"We want to get as many swimmers to sign this declaration and get officials moving fast to introduce testing as soon as possible," Gross told a news conference at the European Championships.

"It could happen that many swimmers will refuse to compete in events like some of Europe's international meetings if organizers refuse to bring in the tests. I would certainly consider not starting," said Gross, the reigning 200 metres butterfly Olympic champion.

## Evans sets medley record

## US swimmers shine

TOKYO, Aug. 18. (AP): For a second straight day, the powerful US team captured six out of nine events today in the Pan Pacific Swimming Championships.

Australia, China and Canada each won one event in the competition at the 50-metre Yoyogi National Olympic swimming pool.

American Janet Evans, the Seoul Olympic triple gold medalist, easily won the 400-metre individual medley in 4:39.38, a new meet record.

Evans broke the old mark of 4:44.45 set by American compatriot Erika Hansen in 1985. She moved into the front after 50 metres and gradually increased her lead, winning about 10 metres ahead of Lin Li of China, who finished second with a time of 4:45.69. Australian Donna Procter came in third in 4:45.99.

China's Zhuan Yong came from behind to win the 100-metre freestyle with a time of 55.68. American Jenny Thompson, who led for the first half, finished second in 55.84. Zhuan and Thompson both smashed the meet record of 55.86 set by Dara Torres of the United States in 1987.

Nicole Haislett of the United States placed third in 55.99.

Canadian Keltie Duggan led all the way and won the 100-metre breaststroke in 1:09.79, edging American Tracey McFarlane, who was clocked 1:09.81. Both beat the previous meet record of 1:09.92, set by Allison Highson of Canada in 1987.

Minutes after winning the 400-metre individual medley, Evans joined the US relay team, which easily won the 4 x 200-metre freestyle relay in 8:03.33, a meet record.

Japan was second, about 20 metres behind the United States in 8:14.83. Third was Canada with a time of 8:16.29.

In men's events, Dave Wharton outduelled American compatriot Eric Namesnik to capture the men's 400-metre individual medley in 4:16.14, against Namesnik's 4:17.02.

It was a two-man race for the last 100 metres, with the two Americans about 10 metres ahead of Canadian Raymond Brown, who finished in 4:23.61.

In the men's 800-metre freestyle, Australian Michael McKenzie took the lead after 300 metres and went on to win in 7:58.99, edging American Dan Jorgensen, who was clocked at 8:01.29.



## Test of strength

Bill Kazmaier, of the United States, goes through one of the eight tests of strength yesterday to find 'the World's Strongest Man' in a competition currently under way in San Sebastian, Spain. Eight men are competing for the title. (Reuters wirephoto)



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